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PARLIAMENT MEETS: TO PAY THE PIPER.



BACK FROM THE WAR: THE ROYAL CANADIANS CHEER THEIR QUEEN AT WINDSOR.

'HOW STOUT YOU ARE GETTING!'

There is too often a scarcely veiled reproach in that exclamation: "How stout you are getting!" At any rate the corpulent one is generally sensitive on that point, and perhaps feels a reproach where none is intended. Certain it is that to lose the *exquisite* symmetry of youth, to broaden out, to "swell visibly," as Sam Weller has it, and finally to become "fat and scant of breath," is a process at once humiliating and distressing, especially to those who possess that keen appreciation of personal appearance which is a part of what is termed good breeding. There is now, however, no excuse for those who have resigned themselves to carry to the grave the reticent proportions of a Falstaff. The perusal of a little book entitled "Corpulency and the Cure," by F. Cecil Russell, has afforded us not a little interest and instruction on a subject which has hitherto received but superficial attention from the medical profession. Mr. Russell has made the cure of obesity his life's study, and, judging from the record of his achievements—over a thousand grateful letters from his patients are printed in the book—he has been singularly successful. The author's treatment

OUT OF PRINT, AS USUAL, THE
FIRST DAY OF PUBLICATION.

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"Under the Union Jack," THE "P.I.P." CHRISTMAS ANNUAL.

EDITED BY JOHN LATEY.

"UNDER THE UNION JACK" (with which is presented a *Patriotic Coloured Plate*) is practically a Romantic History of the Boer War in the shape of a most interesting story by LIEUT.-COL. NEWTHAM DAVIS, copiously illustrated by R. CATON WOODVILLE and DUDLEY CLEAVER, with a National Poem by KAY BEE.

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THE "P.I.P." OFFICE, 198, STRAND, LONDON.

Talk of London.

HER MAJESTY'S WELCOME-HOME TO THE HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY AND THE CANADIANS

was at once a Queenly honour and an affectionate womanly tribute, which will doubtless be held in life-long remembrance by these brave and gallant soldiers of the Empire. These continuous proofs of the abiding and admiring interest Her Majesty takes in those who have fought so well "Under the Union Jack" do but intensify the love and reverence we all entertain for our venerable Sovereign, whose enlightened and benignant reign has been crowned by an exhibition of patriotism that has not only knit together all classes in the Motherland in bonds of closer mutual sympathy and attachment, but has also shown the world that in England's Colonies beat hearts to the full as loyal and courageous as to devoted to the British Empire as are their brethren at home. A favourite song of the moment eloquently expresses all the nation feels for its noble sons. All the natural emotions, well summed up in "When the Boys Come Home," were evoked

At Windsor

on Nov. 29, when the Royal borough gave Colonel Napier Miles (who succeeded Colonel Need in the command of the Composite Regiment) and the small body of Life Guards he led a right hearty reception. Cheered by the Eton boys and by the martial music of the military bands, the Life Guards, in helmets and khaki, marched up the hill to the grey old Castle to receive the congratulations of the Queen. The men were inspected by Her Majesty, who was accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg and the Duchess of York,

Princess Victoria Eugénie and Princes Leopold and Maurice of Battenberg, the Duchess of Teck, and Prince Francis of Teck.

The Queen, addressing officers and men, then said—

"It is with feelings of great pleasure and deep thankfulness that I welcome you home after your gallant and arduous services in the war in South Africa just a year after I bid you farewell. The hopes I then expressed have been amply fulfilled. All the joy at your safe return is clouded over by the memory of the sad loss of many a valuable life, which I, in common with you all, have to deplore."

It may be imagined with what gusto the valiant Life Guards, in obedience to Colonel Miles's call, cheered the Queen, and how the loyal demonstrations were renewed after dinner at the barracks. A P.I.P. Artist on one of the centre pages sketches the friendly reception given the Royal Horse Guards and the 2nd Life Guards in the streets of London on the same day, and also the jovial scene witnessed at the dinner to the men of the latter regiment at the Albany Street Barracks in the afternoon. Both Colonel Sir Audley Need and the Earl of Duncannon testified to the splendid services of the Household Cavalry in South Africa; and similarly jubilant feasts took place at Knightsbridge and Kensington Barracks.

The Queen's Tribute to the Canadians

at Windsor Castle on the Friday of last week inspired another of our Artists to draw the front Illustration, which faithfully mirrors the enthusiasm with which our intrepid Canadian troopers cheered their well-loved Sovereign at the suggestion of Colonel Otter, their gallant Commander, with whom was Colonel Mackinnon, the leader of the C.I.V.'s. Once again, in simple but most fitting words, did Her Majesty speak, in her beautifully clear voice. The Queen said—

"I am very glad to see you here to-day, and to express my warm thanks for the admirable services rendered in the war by the Canadian troops. I wish you a safe and happy return to your homes."

It was a fresh instance of Her Majesty's thoughtfulness that the smart Colonial band was afterwards shown over the State apartments, and that, while the officers were entertained in the Castle, the men were regaled with a good dinner in the Royal Riding School. Colonel Otter, moreover, had the honour of being included in the Queen's dinner-party in the evening. Munificent founder of Stratheona's Horse, Lord Stratheona figured appropriately at the Lord Mayor's Guildhall reception of the Canadians on Saturday. Right hospitably have our brethren from over the seas been entertained in London, the sights of which they have been shown; and on Monday last Prince Bonhomme and the Princess of Wales gladdened their hearts with their graciousness at the Albany Street Barracks, where T.R.H. inspected them and the Life Guards. The Prince's cordial speeches to both bodies were felicitous as usual.

General Sir Redvers Buller,

who was entertained by the Devonians in London at the Hotel Cecil on Nov. 30, had a restful Saturday-to-Monday stay with the Prince and

Princess of Wales at Sandringham, where Her Royal Highness's birthday was quietly kept.

"Paying the Piper."

"We laugh and drink till the feast is o'er. The reck'ning comes: we laugh no more!" So will it be, in a measure, when, Speaker Gully duly and rightly re-elected, the new Lords and Commons sworn in, and the Queen's Speech read and debated by Mr. Balfour and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and the rest,



SIR H. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN
COMPLIMENTS MR. GULLY ON HIS RE-ELECTION AS SPEAKER.

Sir Michael Hicks Beach comes to bring in his little extra Bill for another Budget of millions sterling. Well, the country went with a free will into the War thrust upon us by the truculent Kruger Ultimatum. We have won, as we were bound to win. The Orange Free State and Transvaal Republic have been incorporated in the British Empire, and we must pay the cost of the campaign. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be supported by the great majority of sorely burdened taxpayers in his wise and just determination to extract from the immensely rich gold-mines of Johannesburg (as the Pretoria oligarchy did before him) a goodly proportion of the costs of the War.

The Kaiser and Kruger.

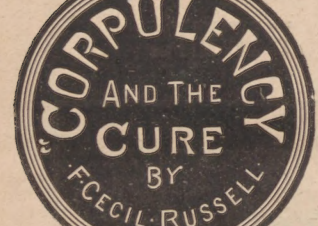
The ex-President of the Transvaal, whom the French President ought surely not to have welcomed officially in Paris, is said to have felt hurt on receipt of the Emperor William's prudent message that he could not receive him. Some of the Paris papers have since given vent to such rabid abuse of the German Emperor as to give good cause for their suppression as public nuisances. Let the Liberty of the Press continue by all means. But License is not Liberty. License ought to be put down with a strong hand by the powers that be in all countries. Happily, the *Siecle*, as usual, offers France seasonable counsel. In this well-conducted Paris journal M. Yves Guyot says—

The Emperor William's refusal is polite but emphatic. It is to be regretted that France is hit as well as Mr. Kruger, since she has compromised herself by her senseless demonstrations. The Emperor William has shown that his Government does not, like that of France, surrender its powers to the less enlightened classes. If Mr. Kruger went to Russia the Czar's refusal would be as emphatic as that of the Emperor William. Today France remains alone, isolated. The Berlin telegram brings nearer the date of peace and the commencement for the Transvaal of a new era of prosperity which will make of it one of the great countries of the future.

The Gaiety Theatre

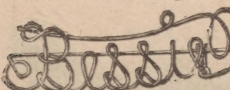
is a playhouse which, under the skilful and tasteful direction of Mr. George Edwards, the public has with good reason come to rely upon as presenting an enlivening and stimulating form of musical entertainment that dispels the "blues" efficaciously. For its rollicking mirth and unceasing "go," for the brilliancy of the brand-new dresses, and for the rich humour of the new songs added, the second edition of "The Messenger Boy" is well worth seeing again and again. It is eminently a cheering performance. Mr. Ivan Caryll, the popular composer, conducted on Monday night; and there was a great gathering of beauty both before and behind the footlights. "More radiantly beautiful than ever, Miss Marie Studholme took the part of Nora; Mr. Edmund Payne was as droll a Jagger, or Tommy Bang, and Miss Katie Seymour as tripping a Rosa as ever; and Mr. Fred. Wright, still most successful as Captain Kettle Pot, his nimble dance with Harry Grattan and his quaint songs evoking rapturous applause. Preserving

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THE SPIRIT OF WINTER'S PLEA.

[The unjoined sweet poem was suggested by the beautiful picture entitled "The Spirit of Winter" in the Christmas Number of the *Illustrated London News*.]

"On look on me with eyes of tender pleading,
"I am not cold at heart," you seem to say;
"I am the care of future blossoms heeding,
So that they bloom so fair for you in May."
"I scatter over river, valley, mountain,
My pure white flakes, and with my fingers twine
Bright gems as flow the waters from the fountain,
With lustrous whiteness all the bare trees shine."
"It is my frothy breath that crowns with glory
The apple trees along the orchard way,
Where mistletoe hangs to the branches hoary,
Ready to gladden all on Christmas Day."
"Then say not I am hard and cold and dreary;
Ah! listen to the children's sweet delight
While skating on the ice they love so dearly:
"The fairy-land to them's a realm of light."
Spirit of Winter, to your plea I listen,
Each season holds some beauty of its own;
And oh, I think while round you frost-gems glisten
No king or queen could own a fairer throne.

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MR. BALFOUR APPROVES THE RE-ELECTION OF MR. GULLY
AS SPEAKER (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY).

READ THE "ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE."—BRIGHTEST AND BEST 6d. MONTHLY.

her amusing "Sure to come out in the Wash," ditty, Connie Ediss scored also in new "C.I.V." song, with a revolting chorus as "fetching" as that of "The Soldiers in the Park." Culminating feature of lustrous splendour and magnetic vivacity was the unsurpassably lively

Paris Exhibition Scene,

which in its kaleidoscopic variety, animation, and charm of costume excelled any spectacle I saw in Paris during the grand Exposition season. It is a feast of colour and sparkling brightness, which will be enjoyed again and again. The chic and lovely new dresses in this exhilarating Paris Exhibition scene, designed by Wilhelmina, and worn by some of the handsomest and most graceful women in London (notably by Miss Margaret Fraser, Miss Rosie Boote, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Maie Saqui, and Miss Maud Hobson), must of themselves entice many ladies to revisit the Gaiety. *Première danseuse* in the impromptu ball under the Tour Eiffel is a lissom sylph of remarkable skill and agility. Miss Kitty Mason, who was most gorgeously arrayed, and was deservedly encored for her clever and dashing solo dance. With this magnificent closing tableau, the second edition of "The Messenger Boy" will not only enliven the last days of the waning Century, but is bound to attract far into the New Year.

THE PROMPTER.

THE CLOSING BOER WAR.

LORD ROBERTS ON HIS WAY HOME.

LORD ROBERTS, having handed over the chief command of Her Majesty's troops in the disturbed Orange Colony and Transvaal to Lord Kitchener, commenced his homeward journey via Natal with a pathetic visit to the last resting-place of a brave departed comrade, of whose great abilities he had the highest opinion. The veteran "Bobs," recovering from his bruises, and accompanied by his daughter, passed through Heidelberg on Nov. 29 and inspected the local Volunteer corps. In the course of a short speech Lord Roberts said he was extremely pleased to see them, and congratulated them upon being the first Volunteer corps raised in the Transvaal. He hoped that their example would be followed by all loyal subjects of Her Majesty in every town in the country.

Next day Lord Roberts arrived at Dundee, and, after visiting the battlefield of Talama Hill

others equally brave were steadfastly determined to effect their relief. On Saturday Lord Roberts visited Colenso (where his gallant only son is buried) and surrounding battlefields, and on Sunday went round the defences of Ladysmith.

Farewell to the Troops.

A Reuter's telegram from Durban reports that Lord Roberts has issued a farewell order, in which he expresses his profound appreciation of the noble work done by the troops in a campaign which is unique in the annals of war, inasmuch as it has continued incessantly for such a long period, and declares that the experience which he has gained in South Africa will help him greatly in the work which lies before him.

Lord Roberts adds (states a special service telegram of the same agency): "I greatly regret that the ties which have bound us together are so soon to be severed, for I should like to remain with the Army until it is completely broken up, but I have come to the conclusion that as Lord Kitchener has consented to take over the command, my presence is no longer required in South Africa, and that duty calls me in another direction. I shall continue to work for the Army as long as I can work at all."

Lord Roberts said, in conclusion: "Is it any wonder that I am intensely proud of that Army I have commanded, or that I regard you, my gallant and devoted comrades, with affection as well as with admiration, and that I feel deeply the parting from you?"

The Plot.

Another Reuter's telegram from Cape Town states that the eleven men who were arrested in Johannesburg on suspicion of being concerned in a plot to assassinate Lord Roberts will merely be deported, the evidence being insufficient to warrant a trial.

Lord Kitchener's First Despatch

since he took over the command in South Africa was dated Bloemfontein, Nov. 30—
"On Nov. 27 General Knox reports that he engaged the rearguard of De Wet's force at Beversberg, on the Dewetsdorp-Smithfield road. Fighting continued for two hours, when the enemy, outflanked, retreated south and south-east. We captured two wagons and stamped 300 led horses."

"One non-commissioned officer killed, and six men wounded."

"By latest reports, General Knox is in touch with De Wet's force near Tugelberg, twelve miles north of Bethanie. On the 28th General Settle engaged Hertzog's commando at Kloof, near Woolvekraal, and after defeating them, occupied Lackhoff. One man wounded."

"Boshof was attacked at 9 p.m. on the night of the 28th, and the attack was renewed at

gallantly attending wounded men under a heavy fire; and Captain Crawshaw and Lieutenants Montgomerie, Somerville, and Tucker, and Surgeon-Captain Godfrey, all of the New



LORD KITCHENER.

WHO SUCCEEDS LORD ROBERTS AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Zealand Mounted Rifles, who had five officers hit out of a total of six. Thirteen were killed and fifty-nine non-commissioned officers and men wounded.

"Paget was in occupation of enemy's position yesterday morning, having sent his mounted troops in pursuit of the Boers, who retired north-east."

The Garrison Captured by De Wet at Dewetsdorp

consisted of 451 of all ranks, and included: Gloucester Regiment, Major H. R. Tufnell, Captains B. O. Fyffe, A. J. Menzies, W. H. Walsh, Second-Lieutenant A. K. Ford, and all N.C.O.'s and men A, B, and F Companies; 68th Battalion Royal Field Artillery, Major Massey and one section; Highland Light Infantry, Second Lieutenant Alston and one company; Army Service Corps, Second Lieutenant McNally; Orange River Colony Police, Lieutenant Boyle, and detachment of the Royal Irish Rifles.

De Wet's Tribute to French.

Mr. Davitt brings over some curious stories of General De Wet, with whom he discussed the campaign. De Wet spoke well of the British soldiers, yet not so well of our Generals and officers. But one compliment he did pay. After hearing many caustic opinions, Mr. Davitt asked him what he thought of General French. "Ah," said De Wet, with a change of tone, "he is the one Boer general in the British Army."

De Wet's Narrow Escape.

Reuter's Correspondent at Smithfield relates how De Wet's command, having been reoccupied by a British force, Major-General Knox gave chase to the Boers, and added that on Nov. 27 the pursuing force came very close to De Wet's column—

"The mounted men on both sides quickly took cover and a sharp engagement ensued. The Boers shelled U Battery with a fifteen-pounder captured by them at Dewetsdorp. It was evident that the Boers were completely surprised."

"Mr. Steyn and General De Wet breakfasted at a farm close to the scene of action, and decamped hurriedly for the westward, leaving our front clear."

"We captured two wagons, one loaded with provisions, and the other clothing and boots, looted, no doubt, from Dewetsdorp. Nearly 300 of the enemy's horses stampeded at the first volley, and were captured by our troops. Our losses were one sergeant killed and six men wounded. Several Boer wounded were afterwards found."

A Central News despatch, dated Standerton, Dec. 3, reports an action before that town. It says the last two days had been a busy time for the troops, fighting taking place quite close to the town. The Boer commando under Hans Botha, rendered bolder by starvation, raided a farm nearly three miles out, and captured nearly forty head of cattle.

The Afrikaner Congress

at Worcester, says the *Mail*, will be the largest Afrikaner gathering ever held in the colony. It was expected that 10,000 persons would be present. Olive Schreiner was to be the principal speaker. The troops at Worcester comprise 220 Canadians, 400 Australians, and a Canadian battery of six 15-pounders. Sir J. H. de Villiers, ex-Chief Justice of the Free State, appeals to the Dutch clergymen to offer their services to the British for the purpose of meeting the Boer demand, and beseeching them in Heaven's name to stop the war.

More Boer Prisoners for St. Helena.

A Reuter's telegram from Cape Town reports that the transport *Victoria* sailed on Monday with 200 Boer prisoners for St. Helena and 300 details for London.

TAKEN CARE when drinking Cocoa to have the pure article only, as many so-called "pure" Cocos contain added matter that is not only unnecessary, but often positively harmful. *Cocoa*'s is absolutely pure, and a perfect food. Insist on having "Cadbury's," as other Cocos are sometimes substituted for the sake of extra profit.—[ADVT.]



GENERAL DE WET AND MR. STEYN SURPRISED AT BREAKFAST.

and the grave of General Penn Symons, continued his journey to Pietermaritzburg. His Lordship is expected to sail for England by the steam-ship *Canada* on Dec. 11.

His Lordship at Ladysmith.

Of the stout resistance offered by Sir George White to the Boers at Ladysmith, Mr. Maud, the *Graphic* Special Artist, gave us vivid souvenirs in his Illustrated War Lecture at the Queen's Hall, presided over last week by Sir Redvers Buller, a thin man compared with the burly General he was when he went out. We have since had another reminder of the plucky defence and deliverance of Ladysmith. A Reuter's special service telegram reports that Lord Roberts arrived at Ladysmith on Friday week. The station was crowded in every part. A band of school-children sang the National Anthem. Replying to an address, Lord Roberts expressed his admiration and high appreciation of the part which had been played by the inhabitants in the defence of the town. He liked to think that they had such able men as Sir George White for comrades, while outside

11.30 a.m. on the 29th. The Boers were repulsed without any loss to our garrison.

"General Paget was engaged on the 28th and 29th with the joint commando of Viljoen and Erasmus, and drove enemy back on to a position at Rietfontein, north-east of Rhenoster Kop. I regret to report that Lieutenant-Colonel Lloyd, commanding West Riding Regiment, was dangerously wounded. Five other officers wounded, names not yet received. Five men killed and fifty wounded. General Lyttelton is co-operating with Paget."

The Death of Lieutenant-Colonel Lloyd was, sad to say, reported in the despatch Lord Kitchener sent off the next day—

"I regret to say that Lieutenant-Colonel Lloyd, commanding West Riding Regiment, was killed, and the following officers were wounded: Lieutenants Townsend and Oakes, severely; Captain Ackworth and Lieutenant Harman, slightly, all of West Riding Regiment."

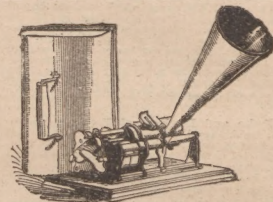
"Also Lieutenant Challis, R.A.M. Corps, severely, being hit in three places, while

CHARMING XMAS PRESENTS.

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HOW THE WORLD WAGS.

THE QUEEN has given her very sympathetic patronage to "The Guild of Loyal Women of South Africa," who "have undertaken the protection and care of the graves of all who have died for Queen and Empire during the war."

Her Majesty carried all before her at the Birmingham Fat Stock Show on Saturday last. Nine animals were entered in her name—three in each of the short-horn, Hereford, and Devon classes. With the Short-horn heifer Cleo the Queen secured the three challenge cups, carrying with them the championship of the show. These trophies are the Elkington, the Thorley, and the Webb and Sons' Cups, each valued at 100 guineas. Her Majesty also won the *Miniphosphorus Fat Stock Cup* (value fifty guineas) for the best animal in the show.

The Prince of Wales paid a high tribute to the work of the London County Council at a dinner last Monday given by Mr. Dickinson, chairman of that body, to the new Metropolitan Mayors. No institution, His Royal Highness declared, worked harder or was "more desirous of doing good for the amelioration of all classes of the Metropolis," and he took occasion to urge the importance of the questions of the housing of the poor and of the relief of London's street-congestion with which the Council had to deal.

The Duke and Duchess of York, attended by the Hon. Derek Keppel, returned to London from York Cottage, Sandringham, last Monday. Their Royal Highnesses, attended by Sir Charles Cust, were present in the afternoon at the inspection by the Prince of Wales of the Composite Regiment of Household Cavalry and the Canadian contingent in Regent's Park Barracks.

The Fifteenth Parliament of Great Victoria, the last of the century, opened at Westminster last Monday. After the usual assembly of both Chambers in the House of Lords, the Commons returned to elect a Speaker. The duty of proposing and seconding the reappointment of Mr. Gully devolved upon Sir James Ferguson and Dr. Farquharson respectively. After a few graceful words in reply, Mr. Gully was conducted to the Speaker's chair, and thereafter Mr. Balfour and Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman bore testimony to the unanimous confidence of all parties in the choice that had been made.

Mover of the Address.—The Hon. J. E. Gordon proposed the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne with which the brief winter Session of the House of Commons was opened.

The second mover was Mr. J. Fitzalan Hope. Mr. Gordon is the member for Elgin and Nairn, and the eldest son of the late Right Hon. Lord Gordon, of Drumearn, a life peer, who was formerly Lord Advocate for Scotland, and member for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities. Mr. Gordon married the daughter of Mr. Snowden Henry of East Denes, who was member for South-East Lancashire from 1885 to 1894. The mover of the Address first saw the light a half-century since, and was educated at Edinburgh Academy and University. He is well acquainted with company law, and was keenly interested in Mr. Faithfull Begg's Company Bill, which succeeded prematurely. The friendship existing between Mr. Begg and Mr. Gordon was no doubt due to the fact that they were both members of the London Stock Exchange.

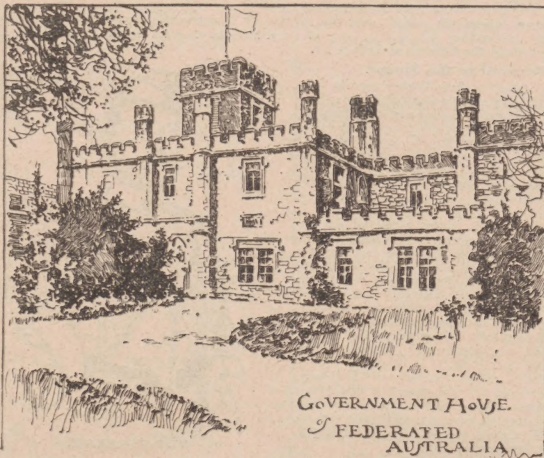
THE HON. J. E. GORDON.

The Birbeck Institute, in Broad's Buildings, the Regent Street and Borough Polytechnic, the Working Men's College in Great Ormond Street, and many other institutions, offer studios young men and women to study facilities at cheap evening-classes, which should be attended even more largely than they are. The *Times* says the solutions made to the Birbeck problem are a credit to the generosity of Mr. Francis Ravenscroft, Manager of the Birbeck Bank, were thrown open for general inspection last Saturday evening. On the completion of the solutions made to the Birbeck problem, Mr. Ravenscroft has given the institution a sum of 2000 guineas, which has enabled the council to add some much-needed accommodation. This includes a large and handsome reading-room, a refreshment and social room, council and principal's room, and a metallurgical laboratory.

Sir Evelyn Wood's Brief Spell at the War Office.—General Sir H. Evelyn Wood, V.C., who is acting as temporary Commander-in-Chief until Lord Roberts returns, is the youngest son of the late Rev. Sir J. P. Wood. He was born in 1838, and entered the Navy in 1852, serving with distinction as aide-de-camp to Captain Sir W. Peel, in command of the Naval Brigade in the Crimea. He entered the Army as Colonel in the 18th Light Dragoons. Sir Evelyn served with distinction in the various Indian campaigns. He accompanied Sir G. Wolseley to Ashantee, and commanded the right wing of the Army in the battles of Amoaful and Ordahau, and was present at the capture of Kumasi. Throughout the Zulu War he displayed much gallantry, and was received on his return by the Queen in person. He took a prominent part in the Transvaal War of 1899.

St. In the following year he commanded the 2nd Brigade of the Second Division in the Egyptian Expedition. He eventually became Colonel of the Egyptian Army. If the Aldershot District he was until recently the commanding officer.

The Federation of Australia.—With the fast approach of New Year's Day, the excitement is growing intense in our Australian Colonies on account of the Commonwealth then to be inaugurated. The animation is quite pardonable, for the first year of the new country will indeed be a memorable one for the four million people who reside in our possessions in the Antipodes. The return of the Australian troops from their gallant service in South Africa, the introduction of the Commonwealth, and the opening of the first Session of the new Parliament, which any nation or section of a nation may be proud of. No one will gainsay the fact that the Royal visit must lead to the consolidation of the vast Empire over which our beloved Queen has ruled for so many years, and tend to the fostering of affection between all our Colonies and the Motherland. Our Illustration depicts the Government House of Federal Australia. Australia is singularly blessed with capitals, for there are not Adelaide, Brisbane, and Perth, to say nothing of the more-recently chief cities—Sydney and Melbourne! Government Houses are naturally the topic of the hour. Our sketch is that of the one at Sydney, to which we must award the palm, for it is here that Lord



WHERE LORD HOPETOUN WILL RESIDE.

Hopetoun will at first reside. Though in point of size it does not equal its rival at Melbourne, nor does its domain (or public park) compare with the Melbourne domain, the Sydney Government House is a most agreeable castellated mansion of not too large proportions. Its domain is in the sear enjoying the little cove, where the British men-of-war lie glittering in the sunshine.

Shakespeare's "Henry V." at the Lyceum Theatre on Dec. 22 should prove a triumph for Mr. Lewis Waller and Mr. Molison. Mr. Waller, who is constantly advancing his position as an actor, may be expected to present a fine study of the King. Mr. Molison, who intends to play Ancient Pistol, will probably make that character more important than usual. Reconstruction of the play will to some extent be adopted so as to avoid constant changes of scene. As the present time, when so much interest is taken in martial scenes, the Lyceum spectacle, carried out in the most realistic manner, and heightened by the splendid scenery Mr. Hawes Craven and other celebrated artists, will be certain to attract large audiences. Every inch of the Lyceum stage will be occupied, and the stirring appeals to English valour and patriotism, so brilliantly illustrated at Agincourt, will most likely lead to a success worthy of the best records of Sir Henry Irving's famous theatre in the Strand.

An English Opera at Covent Garden.—This is the novelty promised next season by the Royal Opera Syndicate. The libretto will be by Mr. Julian Sturgis, and the music by Dr. Villiers Stanford, who has chosen as his subject Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing," which has been already set to music by the great French composer, Berlioz. Dr. Stanford's opera, "The Veiled Prophet," was produced at Hanover in 1881, and revived at Covent Garden by the late Sir Augustus Harris. "Savannah," was also performed at Covent Garden. His sparkling libretto, "Shamus O'Brien," has met with great success in the provinces.

Dr. Villiers Stanford, who last week conducted Weber's "Euryanthe," at Daly's Theatre, the performers being students of the Royal College of Music, has written many other important works, symphonies, masses, overtures, chamber-music, cantatas, incidental music for turns, chamber-music, cantatas, numerous songs, concertos for violin and piano, etc. We congratulate this admirable musician, who was born in Dublin in 1862, upon the coming production of a grand opera at Covent Garden. The charming comedy of Shakespeare should make an admirable libretto.

Mr. Oscar Wilde, who died in Paris last Friday, will be remembered by London playgoers as the author of "Lady Windermere's Fan" and other witty works for the stage.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" is the play to be performed at the Comedy Theatre on Dec. 19 by Mr. Benson's company.

"The Light that Failed," by Rudyard Kipling, is a story of great power and interest. It has been adapted for the stage by the lady who signs herself "George Fleming," and is to succeed "A Message from Mars" at the Avenue. The story has been adapted before, but the play, like the light, failed. Let us hope the Avenue version will be successful.

The Children will Have a Grand Time this coming Christmas at the Vaudeville Theatre. "Alice in Wonderland" will be put into the evening bill, in addition to the matinee performances. Not only will they enjoy the delightful drollery of Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour

Hicks, but prizes of dolls will be given at the end of the run. The management intend to raise a goodly sum for the Lewis Carroll Cot in the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. So, while the happy little folk at the Vaudeville are shrieking with delight at the "March Hare" and the "Mad Hatter," they will at the same time be helping their less fortunate brothers and sisters. This is the right idea for Christmas. May it prosper!

The Apollo Theatre is to be the title of Mr. Lowenfeld's new playhouse in Shaftesbury Avenue.

"T.L.N." Smoker.—In genially presiding over the annual Smoking Concert and Prize-distribution of the *Illustrated London News* Athletic Club (which also comprises the staffs of the *Sketch* and *The Penny Illustrated Paper*), Mr. Bruce S. Ingram, son of Sir William J. Ingram, met with a most cordial reception last Saturday evening at the Faldstaf, in Eastcheap. In his next speech, the Chairman expressed pleasure at the success of the club, which had been the means of providing healthy outdoor recreation for the hard-working members. He took advantage of the presence of Mr. Melton Prior, the famous Special War Artist of the *Illustrated London News*, to propose that a hearty Welcome-Home cheer should be raised for the man who had delineated so ably the heroic defence of Ladysmith and its relief by General Buller's Army. Mr. Prior, in reply, cited instances of the many risks the besieged ran during the Boer bombardment of the town, and was loudly applauded by his comrades.

Of the Prizes presented the chief was the new Ingram Challenge Cup, won by A. West Jun., who was also first in the 882-yards handicap, the prizes for which were given by Mr. W. R. Elen and Mr. John Lacey. At the close of the exceptionally delightful and amusing concert, a hearty vote of thanks was vociferously accorded to the talented vocalists and instrumentalists, and also to the assiduous trio whose "turn" lasted longest—J. M. Watson Largo, Musical Director; Mr. Horace Kirk, who played cheerfully and well the overture and all the accompaniments; and Mr. S. E. Webb, the indefatigable Honorary Secretary, thanks to whose able arrangements a most enjoyable evening was passed.

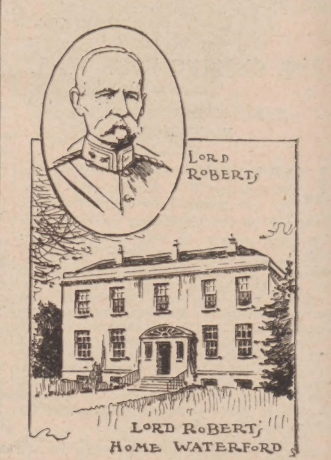
Mr. Alfred Edward Morse, a coach-driver, sought a divorce on Nov. 30 by reason of the misconduct of his wife with the co-respondent, Mr. John Alabaster, stated to be connected with the firm of Messrs. Bates and Co., mineral-water manufacturers, against whom damages were claimed. The charge was not contested, but the respondent pleaded cruelty, which was denied. Mr. Eldridge appeared for the petitioner; Mr. Marshall Hall, Q.C., and Mr. Barnard for the respondent; and Mr. Barragrove Deane, Q.C., for the co-respondent. The marriage took place on Feb. 19, 1888, at Maid Vale, and Mr. and Mrs. Morse afterwards lived at Brighton, and ultimately at Bath. Mr. Morse discovered that his wife had been acquainted with the co-respondent before the marriage, and at his request she wrote to Mr. Alabaster stating that she was a married woman, and that he was not to speak to her if she met him. At one period petitioner drove the Brighton coach, and later on drove the Bath and Clevedon coach. On Aug. 14 last, when the respondent was living at Bath, she went away with the co-respondent. She left a letter behind her stating that she was very unhappy, adding "Good-bye for ever." Across the envelope was written, "All my love." She stated what all his money would be found in a box. Petitioner made inquiries, and put himself into communication with the co-respondent's wife. Later on he ascertained that Mrs. Morse and Mr. Alabaster had stayed together at a hotel in Piccadilly. In the result the jury found for the

petitioner, and assessed the damages at £250. Sir Francis Jeune granted a decree nisi, with costs, and directed that the damages be paid into court in fortnight.

Home-Coming of Lord Roberts.—The command of the British forces in South Africa is no longer in the hands of Lord Roberts, for he has given over the control to Lord Kitchener of Khartoum. Not many weeks will elapse ere we shall have our own "Bobs" with us once more. Lord Roberts is, however, not coming home to rest on the laurels which he has won in the South African Campaign, and in several previous expeditions, but to take up new duties of an equally onerous character. The name of the "Kandahar" is held in universal esteem—and justly so, for his recent service to Great Britain will not speedily fade from the memory.

His Work in South Africa was of exceptional importance, for by his splendid strategy he turned calamity into conquest, crushing the most gigantic danger which had threatened the British Empire since the terrible Mutiny in India. Who has forgotten the dreary days of a twelvemonth ago, when Lord Roberts—without regard to his years and to the loss of his son—replied to the trumpet-call of duty, and went out to control our army against a foe that till then had been successful to an altogether unexpected degree? Despite the fact that the nation roused herself, and gave the valiant soldier all the resources for which he asked, the task could not be deemed easy.

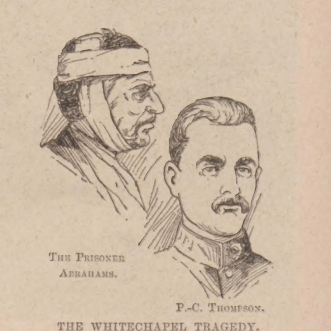
An Army had virtually to be created by Lord Roberts, and he had to select it and himself to conditions with which the British soldier is unfamiliar. The area of operations was an additional embarrassment, not to name the advantages the enemy possessed in point of local knowledge of the country. Against the direct odds he has won and won with a commendable blending of the arts of



the military tactician and the kindness of a man who owns a tender heart even in the trying hour of battle. Yes, "Bobs" is on his way home!

Hearty and Long will be the cheers with which Britishers will greet him. Let us hope that his term of office as Commander-in-Chief will be as successful as his endeavours have been in South Africa. Our Illustrations show the famous Commander, together with a view of Newtown House, Waterford. The house was formerly known as Suirville, and it was here that Lord Roberts and his mother resided and he himself spent his boyhood days.

The Hooligan Outrages, which for months past have made the East End and other districts a disgrace to civilisation, reached a climax during the early hours of last Saturday morning, when Constable Thomsen became engaged in a skirmish with a gang of lawless characters in Whitechapel. Finding himself sorely beset, he blew his whistle vigorously, but when his colleagues in the neighbourhood ran to his assistance they found him



THE PRISONER ABRAHAMSON.

P.-C. THOMPSON.

THE WHITECHAPEL TRAGEDY.

bleeding profusely from the neck, and he lost consciousness almost immediately, dying before he could be taken to the London Hospital. A man named Abrahamson, with whom the deceased is stated to have been struggling when aid arrived, was arrested, and charged at the Thames Police-court later in the morning.

Sentence on the Scarborough Bank Manager. At the York Assizes on Saturday last before Mr. Justice Leatham, Edward Crosby, thirty-eight, clerk, on bail, pleaded "Guilty" to wilfully and with intent to defraud, making a false entry in a counter-book belonging to the York City and County Banking Company (Limited). The prisoner was manager of the Scarborough branch of the bank at Scarborough, and was found one day injured in his office—it was at first presumed by burglars. But the injuries were seemingly self-inflicted, and Crosby afterwards admitted he had committed the offence with which he was charged owing to the difficulties he got into after a serious loss. He was well defended by Mr. A. P. Longstaffe; the Judge took a lenient view, and Crosby was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

"Poor Joe, the Marine," is seldom credited with many gallant deeds of valour performed by him in war. This sin of omission, a Wei-Hai-Wei reader of the *P.P.P.* uniforms is in a constant state of indignation in view of the descriptions of the defence of the brave British Legion in Peiking against the Chinese marauders. He points out that the majority of "defenders" were Marines, whose valour and devotion have been patent to the whole world. We have the warmest admiration for



the gallant Mariner, and trust that their valuable services will in future be more fully recognised than they have been in the past.

General Knox and De Wet's Operations.—Our Sketch Map indicates the scene of the operations that have been suddenly sprung on the British forces by the wily De Wet. It will be noticed that the centre has been moved to that portion of the Orange Colony which lies east of Bloemfontein—between Basutoland and the railway. This difficult vicinity was cleared last summer by General Buller, and it is regrettable that the enemy has once more decided to reopen hostilities in that region. Thirty-eight miles south-east of Bloemfontein is Dewetsdorp, which was captured by De Wet with his garrison and artillery, on Nov. 24, after a three-day defence, and recaptured by General Knox on Nov. 26. Dewetsdorp, whence the relief column started, only to arrive too late, is on the railway, forty-eight miles to the south-west. De Wet and Steyn, with their forces, were reported to be retiring south-west, according to one telegram to Boomplaats, eighteen miles from Bloemfontein. It is quite possible that the Boer commander may make a demonstration on the Orange River

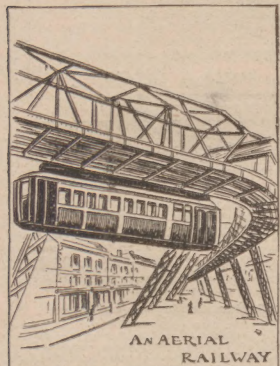
GENERAL KNOX.



THE SCENE OF DE WET'S LATEST EXPLOIT.

and threaten an invasion of Cape territory. Isolated bands of Boers are warning on the north bank and constantly raiding at the Bloemfontein. Twenty-eight miles north of Dewetsdorp is Thaba N'chu, near which Commandant Haasbroek has been defeated, but without decisive results, by Colonel White. Further north the Boers are dominant in the mountainous country between Ladybrand and Ficksburg. They are reported to have a strongly fortified line between Ladybrand and Thaba N'chu, while at Ficksburg, close to the Basuto border, they have again set up Republican rule. Smithfield, which was saved from attack by General Knox's rapid march, is fifty miles south of Dewetsdorp, and only twenty-five miles from the Orange River. This was the route to Cape Colony which De Wet evidently contemplated using. Taken as a whole, the present outlook in the south of Orange Colony is not of a pleasing nature. Lord Kitchener by this time knows the methods of the Boers, and will soon, let us hope, capture one or both of the Generals now causing so much concern to the British soldiers. General Knox, who has shown praiseworthy skill in dealing with the latest outbreaks, has witnessed much fighting in the South African Campaign. Until the engagement at Paardeberg he seemed without injury, but at this battle he was hit in the chest by a Boer sharpshooter. At this time combat the brave General Herbert MacDonald was wounded.

Unique Suspension Railway.—The German Emperor and Empress have opened a suspended railway which connects Barmen-Ritterhausen with Elberfeld and



AN AERIAL RAILWAY

Völklingen, in Rhineland Prussia. The projector of this aerial line was a Mr. Langen, of Cologne, who died before seeing the completion of the idea. For a great part of the way the railway has been built directly over the Wupper River, and in other parts runs over the highway—in which case the railway supports are fashioned, like an inverted U, in consequence of the road traffic below. The stations are also "hanging," and of a peculiar shape, necessitated by the conditions. The line has taken a little over two years to complete. Cheapness seems to be the chief advantage of the system. As the line has been carried mainly over roads and river, there has been practically no expense incurred in buying ground. The cars run smoothly and pleasantly, so that the chief objection to the system would be its unsightliness. That it is a slight eyesore there can be no doubt; but then the Elberfelders consider convenience and convenience before comeliness. From this point of view the "Schwebelbahn" should certainly be a successful speculation. The German Emperor, whose interest in scientific apparatus is well known, made a minute examination of the working of the new railway, and expressed his belief that a successful future was in store for this means of transit.

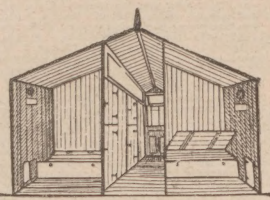
Don't Look Old.—With advancing years greyness increases. Stop this with LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER, which darkens to the former colour and preserves the appearance. LOCKYER'S large bottles everywhere.—[ADVT.]

The "P.P.P." Farmer.

BY A FRESH HAND.

A Hygienic Kennel.

MEN keeping a large number of dogs know how very important it is to have proper kennels, there being much likelihood that the most successful breeders are those paying attention to the question of proper accommodation for their dogs. Of the many ranges I have looked over during the past few years none appear to be more useful than those erected on the



PORTABLE KENNEL.

lines of the one illustrated, and used for hedges by a lady fancier in one of the home counties. This portable range can be carried out to accommodate any number of dogs, constructed upon the latest and best sanitary principles. There is a passage 3 ft. wide, from end to end of the range, so that the dogs can be exercised under cover, with glazed door at one or both ends; divided doors opening from kennels into passage, the upper portion opening independently of the lower for the purpose of viewing the dogs. Above the doors is a galvanised-wire lattice-work ventilator running the entire length of the passage, giving splendid ventilation to the kennels, which are fitted with day and night benches, wood-battened doors, dog entrance-holes into yards, and glazed lights and circular ventilators in front. The kennels are made of well-seasoned yellow deal, in sections to bolt together, and all parts marked for easy erection. The roof is covered with best galvanised corrugated iron, lined underneath with matchboards and fitted with gutters and rain-water pipe to ground-level. All outside woodwork and inside of passage is painted three coats of best oil-colour, inside of kennel lined with oil or creosoted, and doors glazed with figured glass. The yards are made of strong wrought-iron railing 6 ft. high, 3-5 in. bars, spaced 2 in. apart, with gates complete.

Waterproof Hood and Cape.

I have never tried the hood and cape of which I give an illustration, for in exceptionally wet weather an old soldier has invariably formed part of my equipment at courting or field-trial meetings, and with the addition of a waterproof-coat, stout leggings, and hand-sewn boots I have generally managed to defy the weather. I have, however, seen the hood and cape inquired about



A WATERPROOF HOOD AND CAPE.

by my correspondent in use, and am pleased to give an illustration, as I remember it, as part of the equipment of a South-country courting correspondent. When chafed about his appearance he admitted that he might look singular, but he defied any of us to be drier about the shoulders than he was at the end of the soaking wet day on the marshes. The advantage of the covering is that it weighs under a pound, and can be folded up and carried in one's pocket. It can be obtained through any dealer in waterproofs.

On Raising Begonias.

My North-country correspondent, charmed by some begonias seen at a local show, can easily raise these plants from seed, but they are better sown in boxes, caloratories and cinerarias, also asked about, need only a shady frame



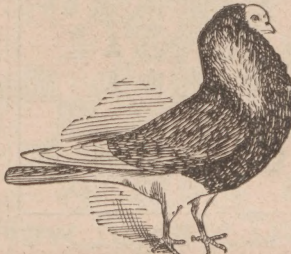
A BEGONIA.

or hand-lit, these seeds have been sown in the summer. Begonia seed is very minute, and requires to be sown with the greatest care. The customary plan among successful growers of these plants is to take, say, a sloan pan or 6-in. pot (nearly one inch if necessary), will drain it by placing one piece of pot over each hole, then a layer of smaller pieces of moss, finishing with some finely sifted sandy compost. Press the sand moderately firm and sprinkle a little silver sand on the surface. Then apply sufficient water through a fine rose can to moisten the whole of the compost, and when the water has well drained away, sow the seed thinly and evenly on the surface. Do not mix an attempt to cover with soil, although a very small amount of finely sifted compost or sand may be sprinkled on the seeds to prevent their being washed away by wind. When sown, place a pane of glass on the pot or pan, and cover the glass with a piece of brown paper,

removing both, however, immediately the seeds have germinated.

A Beautiful Pigeon.

My young correspondent at Atherly will have an excellent opportunity of seeing many of the best pigeons in the country at the Crystal Palace next week, on the occasion of the National Show. The Jacobins, respecting which he makes inquiries, were formerly quite as well known as the ruffled Jack, the pigeon Carme, and the Capuchin, but although not strictly the same varieties, they were all from the same stock, and all the names were derived from some reference to ecclesiastical costume. The Jacobins are about the most unproductive of pigeons; they lay small eggs, which they incubate unsteadily, and, if they hatch them, nurse carelessly. It is best to transfer their eggs to some many trustworthier foster-parents. On account of this difficulty the breed is not a common one, and good specimens are rather difficult to get hold of. The Jacobin has a range of feathers inverted quite over the hinder part of the head, and reaching down on each side of the neck to the shoulders of the wings, forming a kind of hood, something like that of a Jacobin friar, from which it takes its name. A good



A JACOBIN PIGEON.

specimen should have a very small head, with a sudden rise at the forehead, a spindle beak, the shorter the better, and a pearl eye.

N.B.—The "P.P.P. Farmer" will be pleased to reply to rural questions sent to him through the Editor of The Penny Illustrated Paper, 198, Strand, London, W.C.

THE RACING WORLD.

THE racing world could now take a rest if it liked. Nottingham did not appeal to me in any way. I could not see anything likely to elicit or arouse me in the programme arranged for Colwick Park. Nevertheless, I went. A far cry it is from Nottingham to Pollockton, and I must have found things pretty ordinary. The best thing about both these meetings was the railway service, on which I can

Compliment the Great Northern and Midland as regards one, and the now co-operating South-Eastern and Chatham and Dover in the other case.

The Derby

his, so to speak, being dug up so as to make some winter betting, and

Volodyovski Installed as Favourite at about 9 to 2. The second time this colt, who was bred and is owned by Lady Mox, ran, I told Lord William Perseford, who has leased him for his racing career, that I thought he was the

Best Two-Year-Old in England. In that opinion I am now to a great extent supported by the market, but I am not so sure this would be so if Mr. Bob Storer's Tiddington was not under suspicion of unsoundness. If that remarkably fine colt can be got right and kept right next season he will very likely be recognised as possessing exceptional class. I can hope that

His Clever Trainer, Charlie Morton, will make him straight, for I am always sceptical about permanently patching up horses that suffer from shoulder-lameness.

Anyway, the best of our crop of 1901 three-year-olds will, according to my way of thinking, not require to be very smart to be better than Diamond Jubilee.

The Prince's Colt

struck a bad year, and, moreover, was fortunate in the way he came against his rivals. We are told on authority that His Royal Highness intends him to go next year for his valuable engagements, and that he will be asked to follow his brother's example in winning the Ascot Cup.

The Jubilee

has, so say the Newmarket touts, come on well since he has run. A healthy three-year-old ought to do so at this time of the year. The point is whether he comes on in good temper, or his waywardness, frequently so marked this season, has increased. He seemed to me to be altering the wrong way last week—let us hope I am mistaken.

Sloan.

who declared in the *Before* that he would not be interviewed in America, is being misrepresented if he has stuck to that resolution, for Calceolaria, across the water are publishing what are represented to be interviews with him. According to Sloan, everything was as nice and smooth and comfortable for him when he left here as anyone might desire. He says (or is made to say) that he was not engaged for the Prince of Wales, so the engagement could not be rescinded; that he is sure to give his license next season, and has not been betting; moreover, he is not "mixed up with any owner." Nothing could be more satisfactory than the little man's account of himself. Who should know more about the business than J. T. Sloan?

BENDIGO.

THE PENNY LAWYER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TEMPER.—Sue in the County Court.

BARBER.—No.

INSURANT.—If you have made any agreement or given any security since the 1st of November last, or do so in future, the Court has power, on any action brought by the money-lender, to reopen the transaction and take an account between the parties, and may relieve the person sued in their discretion.

MORGAN.—You have a good claim.

TOOTHLESS.—You must set off against the damage for the loss of your front teeth the fact that the bird was very cheap.

INDIGNANT.—You must not box the ears of the cook even at Christmas, although her plum-pudding be tough and her conciliatory drink be strong.

CHRYSTIE.—If only an ordinary mortgage transaction, no registration is necessary under the act you mention. You could obtain a copy from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, printers, London, E.C., for a few pence.

ROSS.—You had better go to a magistrate, take your rent-book and explain the matter to him.

INDEX.—We consider that the matter is too trifling for you to consider too seriously, and that it would not pay you to take action.

DOORKEY.—This would appear to be a yearly tenancy, and therefore six months' notice, to expire on the anniversary of the day on which the tenancy commenced, is necessary.

OTHER REPLIES in next week's P.P.P. LEX.

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6 ft. by 8 ft.	20. 11d.	12 ft. by 12 ft.	12s. 6d.
7 ft. by 9 ft.	26. 11d.	12 ft. by 13 ft.	14s. 6d.
8 ft. by 9 ft.	30. 11d.	12 ft. by 15 ft.	16s. 6d.
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Covered with beautiful self-orienting, washable, and fireproof material, with reverse side another beautiful design, size 6 ft. by 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 12 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 13 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 15 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 18 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 21 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 24 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 27 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 30 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 33 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 36 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 39 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 42 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 45 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 48 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 51 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 54 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 57 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 60 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 63 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 66 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 69 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 72 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 75 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 78 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 ft. by 81 ft. 6 ft. 6 in. 3/6. 12 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THIS CHARMING BLOUSE



HOME NOTES

This is the
CHRISTMAS
DOUBLE
NUMBER,

Games, Charades, and Fun. If you want HOME TO BE
HAPPY THIS CHRISTMAS, you should get a copy of
HOME NOTES at Once.

A
Prize
For
Ladies.

Every lady can receive, by sending a post-card
to W. J. HARRIS & CO., Ltd., some pretty
samples of stitching, and a design showing exact
size of their unrivalled **Defiance Lock-
stitch Sewing Machine**, works by hand
or treadle, only **40/-**, complete; especially
adapted for dressmaking and all kinds of family
sewing, and so simple as to require no instruction
beyond the guide book which is given with each
Machine. Warranted for four years, and sent to
any part of the country on easy terms, **5s.**
per month. Address—

W. J. HARRIS & CO.
CHIEF OFFICE: 51, RYE LANE, PECKHAM, LONDON.
And BRANCHES.

HINDE'S

The late Lord Justice
Chitty, on the applica-
tion of Mr. Lewis
Edmonds, Q.C., re-
cently granted a per-
petual injunction
with costs, restraining a West End Draper from passing off
spurious curlers and selling them as "Hinde's Curlers."
Evidence was given by a lady intruder, Mrs. Noble, of Kensington,
that she had suffered damage by such misrepresentation.
Ladies are urged to note that no curlers or wavers are genuine
"Hinde's" unless they bear the name "Hinde's" on the box.
This is a present highly appreciated and on the box.
Not to be used as a necessity at any well-appointed toilet table,
and ladies to whom these little appliances may be at present
unknown will experience revelation as to the ease and rapidity
with which the day or evening coiffure can be completed. They are
sold in 1/- boxes by every dealer in the three kingdoms or
Sample Box may be
had free by post for
thirteen stamps from
the proprietors, Hinde
Limited, Finchley,
London, E.C.

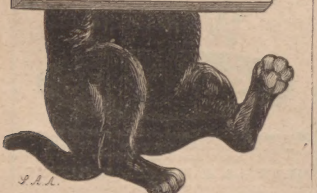
HAIR
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GREY HAIR



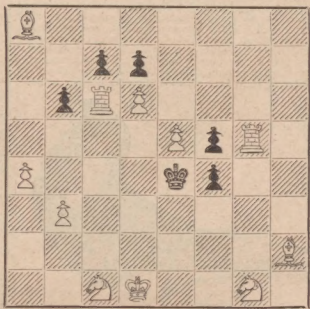
NECROCEINE (Registered)
Stains Grey Hair, Whiskers, Eye-
brows any shade desired. Does
not stain the skin. Is applied in
a few minutes. It is Harmless,
Washable, Lasting and Restores
the Colour to the Root, making
detachment impossible, and is the
Cleanest and Best Hair Stain in
the World. No. 1, Light Brown;
No. 2, Golden; No. 3, Dark
Brown; No. 4, Black. Sent
secretly packed by post for 1s. 3d.,
3s., 5s., 10s., 20s., and 40s.
Medical Certificate sent with each bottle.

Write for Unsolicited Testimonials.
Address—**D. LEIGH & CRAWFORD,**
31, BROOKE STREET, HOLBORN, LONDON, E.C.

ENAMELINE
PUTS A
BLACK GLOSSY COAT
ON YOUR GRATECHESS.
CONDUCTED BY I. GUNSBERG.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 350.
1. K to R 2nd Q takes P (Q 4) 2. Q takes Q Mate
1. " K to B 2nd 2. Q to K 1st Mate, etc.

PROBLEM No. 351.—By W. H. GUNDY.
BLACK (Six Pieces).



WHITE (Eleven Pieces).
White to play, and mate in three moves.

GAME PLAYED IN THE MATCH, BATTERSEA V. ABERDEEN.
Many of our readers who know Mr. P. O. Bernard's prob-
lems will be interested also to see his play, of which we
give a specimen hereby—

WHITE (Mr. Bush). (Mr. Bernard.)
1. P to K 4th P to K 4th
2. K to R 2nd K to Q 2nd
3. K to K 1st K to B 2nd
4. K to B 2nd K to Q 2nd
5. P to Q 2nd P to Q 2nd
6. P to K 4th (ch) P to Q 2nd
7. B to Q 2nd P takes B
8. Another inactive move of
the first player, which lost him
the initiative.
9. Castles P to R 2nd
10. Q to K 2nd B to B 4th
11. K to Q 1st K to R 2nd
Now Black is prepared to play
P to R 4th, draws advantage
to the second player.
This is the inferior move of
White exchanging his K B so
early in the opening. Trying to
capture Black's Bishop does not
add any effective element of
action to White's game.
12. K to R 4th B to K 1st
13. K to R 4th B to K 1st
14. K to R 4th B to K 1st
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DRAUGHTS.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS FROM CAPTAIN CHALLICE, Q.W.R.
J. Arthur, W. A. Collier, and John Morris.
W. A. COLLIER.—Problem accepted.

J. MORRIS.—Your problem can be solved by 18 22 also.
J. C.—In your solution of Problem 309 you omitted to
capture at third move.

JAMES CHARTER, 38, Andrew Street, Middleton Junction,
Manchester would like to play an opponent by corre-
spondence.

H. KEY.—Write to Marlborough and Co., 51, Old Bailey,
London, for Lees' Guide, price 1s. 2d.
P. J. MAIDWELL.—Thank for game; will be published
shortly.

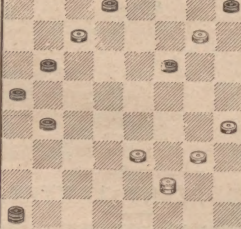
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 312.—By J. STANTON.
Black: 1, 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29.
White: 10, 14, 16, 26, 27, 18, 3, 3, 3.

White to move, and win.
26 22 19-26 10 6 2-9 22 30
18-26 14 9 1-10 13 24
27 23 12-19 9 6 20-27 W. wins.

PROBLEM No. 313.

By THOMAS NOBLE (New Silksworth).

BLACK.
White to move, and win.



WHITE.
White to move, and win.

GAME No. 241.

Played by Correspondence between F. C. SPATT (Camden
Town) and J. B. SHAW (Lewisham).
"Double Corner" (*).

9-14* 15 9 4-8 28 18 7-10
22 18 13-22 29 35 11-16 14 7
5-9 20 17 8-11 27 23 3-10
29 22 6-24 17 14 20-24 32 28
11-16 20 22 10-17 18 15
24 19 11-15 21 14 6-10
8-11 29 17 16-20 15 6
22 17 15-24 20 21 4-17
9-13 28 19 2-6 21 14

F. C. SPATT played black.

THE CHILDREN ARE THE FIRST CONSIDERATION, but there
is no reason why the elders should not share their advantages.
HOBBS' MALTED MILK is a perfect diet for the
nursery, and excellent for all persons as a natural food-
and highly efficient nutrient of easy digestion. All
chemists supply it. Price 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 11s. Send for
free sample and explanatory matter to HOBBS & CO.,
34, Farringdon Road, London, E.C. (Advt.)

THE WORLD OF PASTIME.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY TRIAL
EIGHTS.

THIS is the custom of our Universities of Oxford
and Cambridge to indulge in rowing and path-
running at a time of year when others have
abandoned them in favour of forms of exercise of
a more reasonable character. 'Tis not from
choice, however, but necessity, and a very pleasant
necessity, too, as many have found it. For numbers of
old University men there's pleasure in remembrance,
and not a few revisit year after year the scenes of their early
manhood on occasions such as that of Saturday last at
Oxford, when there were present among others at the race
of the trial eights—Sir John E. Edwards-Moss, J. E. Hale,
W. B. Woodgate, J. O. Johnston, C. K. Phillips, C. M.
Pitman, Goldie, and Lehmann. From Moulford Bridge to
Cleve Creek was, as usual, the course, and for the first time

Strict Racing Boats were used.
In the two crews were several who had rowed in the
winning boat of last year, and three of them were again
successful—namely, T. B. Etherington-Smith, F. O. J.
Huntley (stroke), and H. B. Kittermaster. The Hon. H. E.
Lambart, who was also in the winning boat last year, this
time rowed bow in the losing crew, which was stroked by
F. M. Kelly. As last year at Henley, in the Grand Chal-
lenger Cup race, Huntley, by his excellent judgment, stroked
Leander to victory, so on Saturday it was his long and
finished stroke which led the way to an easy win. With
this race the year's rowing at Oxford was brought to a
close. At Cambridge the Trial Eights had to be left over
for decision until Dec. 11.

Richmond v. Edinburgh Wanderers.
Disagreeable though the weather proved and gross the
ground, the first match of the Scottish team's southern
tour proved one of excellent character. On both sides the
forward play was exceedingly good, the visitors being
rather the smarter when the play was open. Efforts there

Durham and Cheshire, yet here the margin in favour of
Durham was substantial—14 points to none.

The League.

On Saturday the top and bottom clubs met at Preston,
and the result was a draw of one goal each. Considering
that Preston North End had lost eleven of fifteen matches,
and had scored only fourteen goals against thirty-three, while
Notts Forest's record was one lost out of thirteen and
twenty-seven goals against seven, a draw was not quite
what had been anticipated. Newcastle United, too, who
are second on the list, could not do more than draw with
Sheffield Wednesday. There were rejoicings in the

Aston Villa Camp

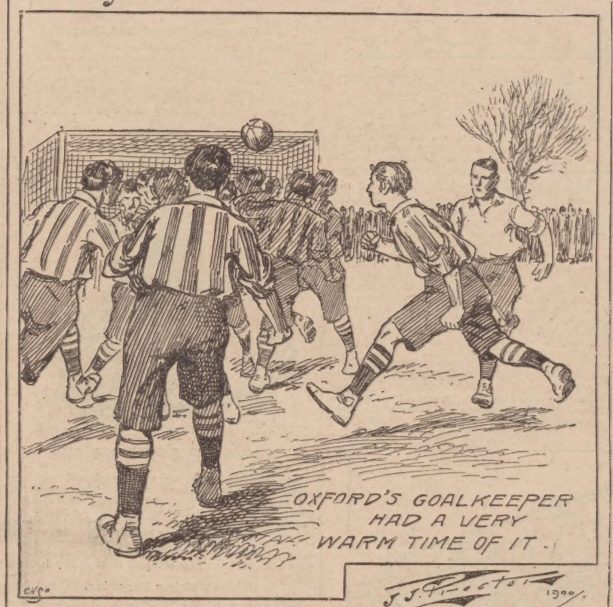
on Saturday evening, for not only did the Birmingham
club beat Manchester City, but they scored seven goals
to one. Sunderland maintained their position by beating
Everton. Bury drew with the Wolverhampton Wanderers
after an exciting and very vigorous game, and Sheffield
United beat Liverpool at the latter place. Notts County
and Blackburn Rovers, though pretty well apart in the list
of results, proved a fairly even match at Nottingham, the
home club being somewhat fortunate in scoring a win by two
goals to one. West Bromwich Albion in any circumstances
could scarcely have hoped for success against Derby County,
and their position was helpless when they lost one of their
backs. Four goals to none was the score at the close. In
the Second Division,

Woolwich Arsenal

had been raising the hopes of their friends by their im-
proved position, but on Saturday the reverse at the hands
of Burnley came as a check, not altogether unexpected
perhaps, but a great disappointment. Tottenham Hotspur
and Kettering met in the Southern League, and a very
tight fit it proved, thanks to the strong defence of the
ex-Midland League champions. Millwall visited and
defeated Watford in a close game, Portsmouth beat
Bristol Rovers, Luton beat Gravesend, Swindon beat
Southampton, West Ham United beat Reading; while
Bristol City scored four to one against Chatham, and a silly
kept their place at the top of the list.

London Charity Cup.

The replayed tie in the first round between London

CLAPTON —v—
OXFORD
LAST SATURDAY.

OXFORD'S GOALKEEPER
HAD A VERY
WARM TIME OF IT.

were on the part of both teams to get away, but the
tackling was nearly all through of very effective character.
Richmond won by 6 points (a penalty goal and a try) to 5
(a goal from a try).

Blackheath v. Guy's and St. Thomas's
Hospitals

was the match at the Rectory Field, and it was of the
inspiring order. The combination held their own in the
first portion of the game, but subsequently their goal line
was crossed three times, though in neither case did more
than a try result. At Oxford the University gave
Marlborough Nomads a tolerably warm reception. The
visitors showed much determination, and the game was
by no means lacking in interest, but the Dark
Blues were able to score 16 points while their oppo-
nents failed signally. Cambridge University were on
strange soil, having journeyed to Leicester. Some
700 persons witnessed Leicester win by eight points to
none. There is no denying the strength of the Leicester
team, but it was none the less a surprise to find that all the
scoring was on their side. It was a fast and interesting
game.

The Inter-University Match
is to be played at the Queen's Club on Wednesday, Dec. 12.
Which will win is a question not easy to answer, consider-
ing how matters have gone with each lately. Early in the
season one would have pinned his faith to Cambridge
University, but as things are now, the chance of Oxford
seems the better.

To Cooper's the London Section went on Saturday,
and they left with the sad reflection that they had
been beaten by the Royal Indian Engineering College
team. It was only, however, by a try to nothing, and the
game was one of capital character. Old Merchant Taylors
easily beat Kensington, and the Harlequins had not much
difficulty in bringing about the defeat of Rosslyn Park.
Leicester and Crystal Palace made a good match of it, as also did
Old Leytons and St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Rugby County Championship.

Devonshire and Gloucestershire, as represented respec-
tively at Exeter, were unevenly matched. The visitors
were as good as their opponents in the forward division,
but behind the scrumgame Devon proved greatly superior,
and won by three goals and two tries to two tries. It was
a more even match in the Northern Section between

Caledonians and Leytonstone proved a very stubborn
affair, and was only settled in favour of the latter after
extra time had been played. Casuals and Old Cathartians
gave an admirable exhibition at Tufnell Park, and as one
side was as good as the other, no tangible result was
arrived at—a good thing for charity. This was one
of the semi-finals. The other match in the penultimate
round, between Clapton and Leytonstone, is to be played at
the Spotted Dog, Upton, on Dec. 15.

Clapton and Oxford University.

At Clapton, on Saturday, the Dark Blues were decisively
beaten by Clapton, and on this showing, as compared
with that of Cambridge the previous week, the Light
Blues would win if the Inter-University Association match
were to be played now. Many things, however, may happen
between the present time and the date for the fixture; and,
moreover, one is always prepared for a surprise in the
Association match.

An American Golfer in England.

All golfers will be anxious to see how Mr. Bernard
Nicholls will get on in this country against some of the best
professionals, as he gained the distinction of twice
proving successful in matches against Harry Vardon
during that player's tour in the United States.

Cross Country.

The "Norman Cup" three-mile handicap of the High-
gate Harriers did not secure so big a field as usual, due
probably to the disagreeable state of the weather. In the
result, C. Saville, 2 min. 20 sec. started, won in 16 min.
14-4-sec. J. Pratt, scratch, finishing eleventh in 15 min.
17-4-sec. H. F. Taylor, 55 sec. start, won the Handicap
Harrier's "Thomas" Cup. The former club, five members of which
finished in front of the first Kent A.C. runner. The
winner received 15 min. 15 sec. start. F. Appleby, Heme
Hill H., was at scratch, and the Times H. and H. held a paper-chase over the course to be
next Saturday (Dec. 8) for the

Inter-University Match.

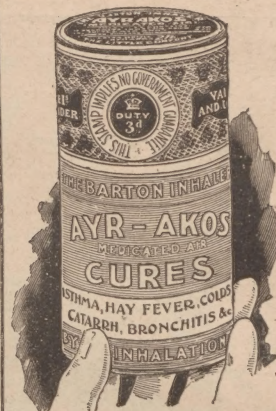
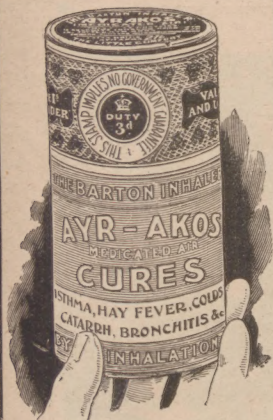
On the same day the Long-Distance Challenge Cup of the
Thames H. and H. is to be decided. **BANSHEE.**

The Cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, Influenza, Coughs, Colds, Clergyman's Sore Throat, &c.,

BY THE USE OF

THE BARTON POCKET INHALER

WITH
"AYR-AKOS" (Medicated Air)
THE NEW
ANTISEPTIC DRY AIR TREATMENT.



Antiseptic Dry Air versus Stomach Medication

IN THE TREATMENT OF COUGHS, COLDS, CATARRH, INFLUENZA, &c.

Coughs and Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Pulmonary Catarrh, Consumption, and Chronic Pneumonia have their origin and seat in the air passages of the Lungs, into which no solid or fluid medicine can be introduced without violence and danger.

Antiseptic dry air can, however, be readily introduced into the Lungs, and produces at once a direct healing and curative action on the diseased parts.

All physicians agree as to the value of the direct application of remedies to inflamed and ulcerated parts. It is of greatest importance that the Lungs and Nasal and Air passages should be treated in the same manner, viz., by direct local treatment, for there is nothing in the history of these disorders, or in the experience of the past, to warrant any expectation that they can be cured by medicines administered through the Stomach, inasmuch as for hundreds of years mankind has tried to heal the Lungs through the Stomach without success.

In all Lung diseases the air-tubes and cells are obstructed by mucus, which prevents the free admission of air; the Blood is impure because the diminished volume of air breathed prevents its purification, whilst the body is wasting away by the destruction of tissue entailed. No known medicine taken by the Stomach has any power to expel the offending matter from the air-tubes, or to purify the Blood by expelling the effete carbon which corrupts it. It is the oxygen in the air we breathe that combines with and brings away carbon waste, and thus makes the Blood pure and sweet. Hence the enormous importance to us of good and deep breathing, and pure air to draw into the Lungs to aerate the Lungs. Every hope of cure, therefore, depends on direct treatment of the Lungs by medicated or antiseptic dry air, which alone can remove these hindrances to recovery.

Dr. Robert Hunter proved to positive demonstration by the successful curative results he achieved, that medicines can be volatilised to a condition of antiseptic dry air, which, when inhaled into the Lungs (or drawn into the Nasal passage), is carried through every air-passage, tube, and cell of the Breathing Organs, thus producing a direct remedial action on the very seat of the disease, bringing the actual means of cure to the exact spot—the diseased parts—where alone it can be efficaciously operative.

Treatment by Inhalation is, therefore, the only means of curing any form of Nasal, Bronchial, or Lung disorder, including Coughs, Colds, Chills, Sore Throats, Influenza, Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis, and the earlier stages of Consumption, and the only possible means of bringing specific germicides to act upon and expel the germs of disease from the Lungs, or at the least to retard their waste and ravage.

The Barton Inhalant ("Ayr-Akos") is that special combination of volatilised, antiseptic medicines, acting directly and curatively on the parts affected, of which Dr. Hunter so repeatedly proved the far-reaching efficacy. The Barton Inhaler is, therefore, a remedial agent of the very highest order. The principles of relief and cure it embodies are agreed upon by all physiologists, scientists, advanced thinkers, and Medical men whose knowledge and treatment of disease are up-to-date. This will commend it to you.

The Barton Inhaler is a sworn foe to Coughs, Colds, Chills, Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis, and Throat and Lung Disorders generally. Influenza as a germ disease yields speedily to its ministrations. Indeed, all germ disorders are benefited by its use, and it is an invaluable preventive of infectious and epidemic disease by its germicidal, or germ-killing power.

Pleasant in action, agreeable and inspiring in its cost (5s. post free) as a counteractant of the dangerous and insidious maladies fostered by the tracheous and variable British climate, especially in the winter months. Its value as a preventive against colds and infection is alone worth many times its cost.

We refund the purchase money if you are dissatisfied.

If when you have received the Barton Inhaler Outfit you are not satisfied with it, you may within five days of its receipt return it to us, and we will at once refund to you the purchase money paid for it. We make this concession to meet the feelings of country customers who are not able to call at our London Offices to inspect the Outfit. We particularly desire that no money shall be received by us except and only when the purchaser is satisfied.

We invite you, therefore, to send a postal order for Five Shillings, and the Complete Outfit will be forwarded by return, post paid. Address all letters to—THE BARTON INHALER CO., 148k, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

How Nasal, Throat, and Lung Diseases Come.

HOW TO AVOID—HOW TO CURE THEM.

The particular germs that cause Nasal, Throat, and Lung diseases are, as, indeed, are all germs, natural denizens of the atmosphere. With every breath we draw, we take them in from infancy to old age, with perfect safety whilst we do not invite attack by torn, abraded, or raw surfaces. Before the Nasal passages, or the Throat, or the Lungs can be assailed, a raw or ulcerated surface must be exposed, upon which germs fasten, and then proceed to multiply in the diseased conditions they themselves create.

Any abrasion, or exceptional wear and tear of the Nasal passages, Wind-pipe, or Lungs, resulting from Cough, Colds, Chills, or from irritative matters given off in unhealthy occupations, exposes a raw, tender, mucous surface, which soon becomes a prey to germ attack and the propagation of disease. While we are well the germs can do us no harm; when we are weak no one is safe from attack.

As none of the usual methods of treatment can be brought to bear upon the Nasal and Air passages, for fear of stopping the patient's breathing, the administration of medicines by way of the Stomach is usually resorted to, which, on the face of it is a round-about way and incomplete. In most cases it is doomed to failure from the very outset. These facts explain why Coughs, Colds, and Chills and Influenza attacks so easily merge themselves into Nasal disorders, as Catarrh, into Throat diseases, as Ulceration, and into disorders of the Air passages, Lungs, &c., as Asthma, Bronchitis, and even Consumption.

Happily, a new method and treatment is becoming a power in the land, and is offered to the reader in the form of the Barton Pocket Inhaler Outfit. If inflammatory affections caused by Colds and Chills are treated by means of the White Barton Inhaler (polished Xylonite) and its special antiseptic dry air Inhalant, then these complaints may be invariably broken up and dispersed, with resulting radical cure, before any harm can be caused to the tissue of the Lungs.

Coughs, Colds, Chills, and obstructions of the Nasal and Air passages are frequently allowed, as people say, "to run their course." The danger and folly of such method is altogether overlooked and disregarded. Indeed, it cannot be disputed that by far the largest proportion of Throat and Lung disease in our midst, including Consumption (itself a germ disease), has been caused by no other means than neglect of inflammatory attacks. And even when treatment (as by way of the Stomach) has been resorted to, it has been inapplicable to the seat of the complaint, and has therefore been practically useless and barren of curative results. The Barton Inhaler treatment, on the contrary, is productive of immediate relief and permanent benefit, because its method of cure and means of application are directly suitable and applicable to the seat of the complaint. The curative and healing remedial dry air ("Ayr-Akos") is brought directly to the diseased parts, so that good immediately follows.

It is indeed because Inflammations and Ulcerations of the Nasal air passages have not been treated by the Barton antiseptic dry air Inhalation, applied to the parts affected, that benefit and cure have been so seldom in the past, and the Lungs themselves have been exposed to further attack of germ disease.

By treating Coughs, Colds, Chills, Influenza, Catarrh, Bronchitis, and Throat and Lung diseases generally, including the earlier stages of Consumption, by volatilised medicines in a state of dry curative air, we permit by Inhalation the direct application of the antiseptic remedies employed into the Nasal passages and Lungs, and they are thus carried through every air passage, tube, and cell of the Breathing Organs. We thus produce a direct antiseptic and curative action at the very seat and source of disease.

The treatment of medicated volatilised air by means of the Barton Pocket Inhaler Outfit is therefore the only rational means of curing any form of Nasal, Throat, or Bronchial disease. Moreover, the Barton method of the Inhalation of antiseptic dry air ("Ayr-Akos") is the only possible means of bringing specific germicides to act upon and expel the germs of Consumption from the Lungs. We refund the purchase money if you are dissatisfied.

If, when you have received the Barton Inhaler Outfit you are not satisfied with it, you may within five days of its receipt return it to us, and we will at once refund to you the purchase money paid for it. We make this concession to meet the feelings of country customers who are not able to call at our London Offices to inspect the Outfit. We particularly desire that no money shall be received by us except and only when the purchaser is satisfied. We invite you, therefore, to send a postal order for Five Shillings, and the Complete Outfit will be forwarded by return post paid. Address all letters to THE BARTON INHALER CO., 148k, Victoria Street, London, S.W.



THE INHALER IS WHITE LIKE IVORY.

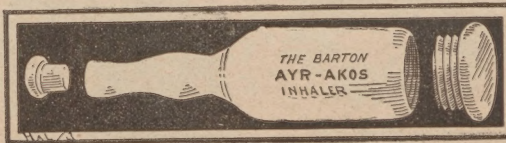
The Inhaler is White like Ivory.



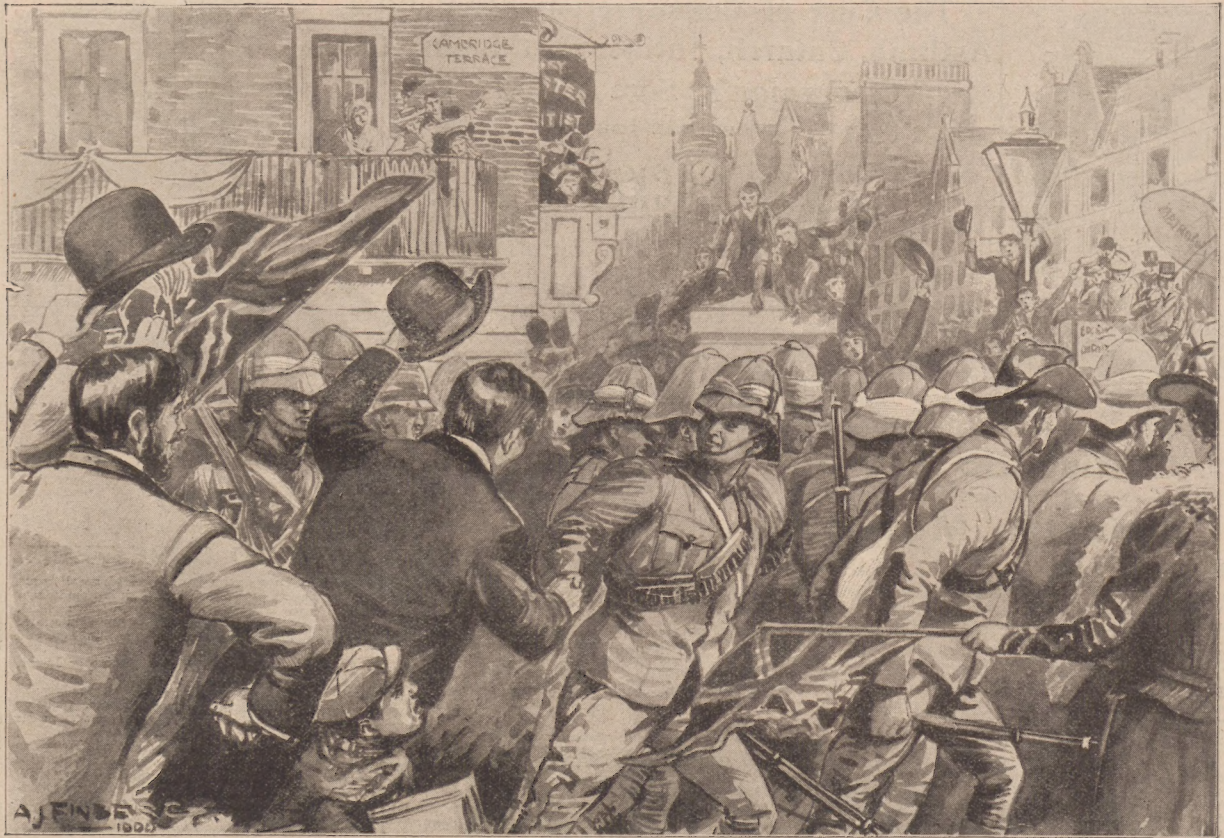
Free Test at our Offices.

Any person who will call at the Offices of the Barton Inhaler Co., 148k, Victoria St., London, S.W. (District Railway), may have, without charge, a free test of Barton's Inhaler and ("Ayr-Akos") Inhalant. We welcome investigation at our Offices, as an inspection of the Outfit at once indicates its value for money, and its special applicability for the preventive and curative purposes in view. Moreover, an actual test of our Antiseptic Dry Air Inhalant, by the means of the Inhaler, at once reveals the great merits and possibilities of our method of relief and cure, and secures at once the sympathies and support of all who test the system.

The Inhaler is White like Ivory.



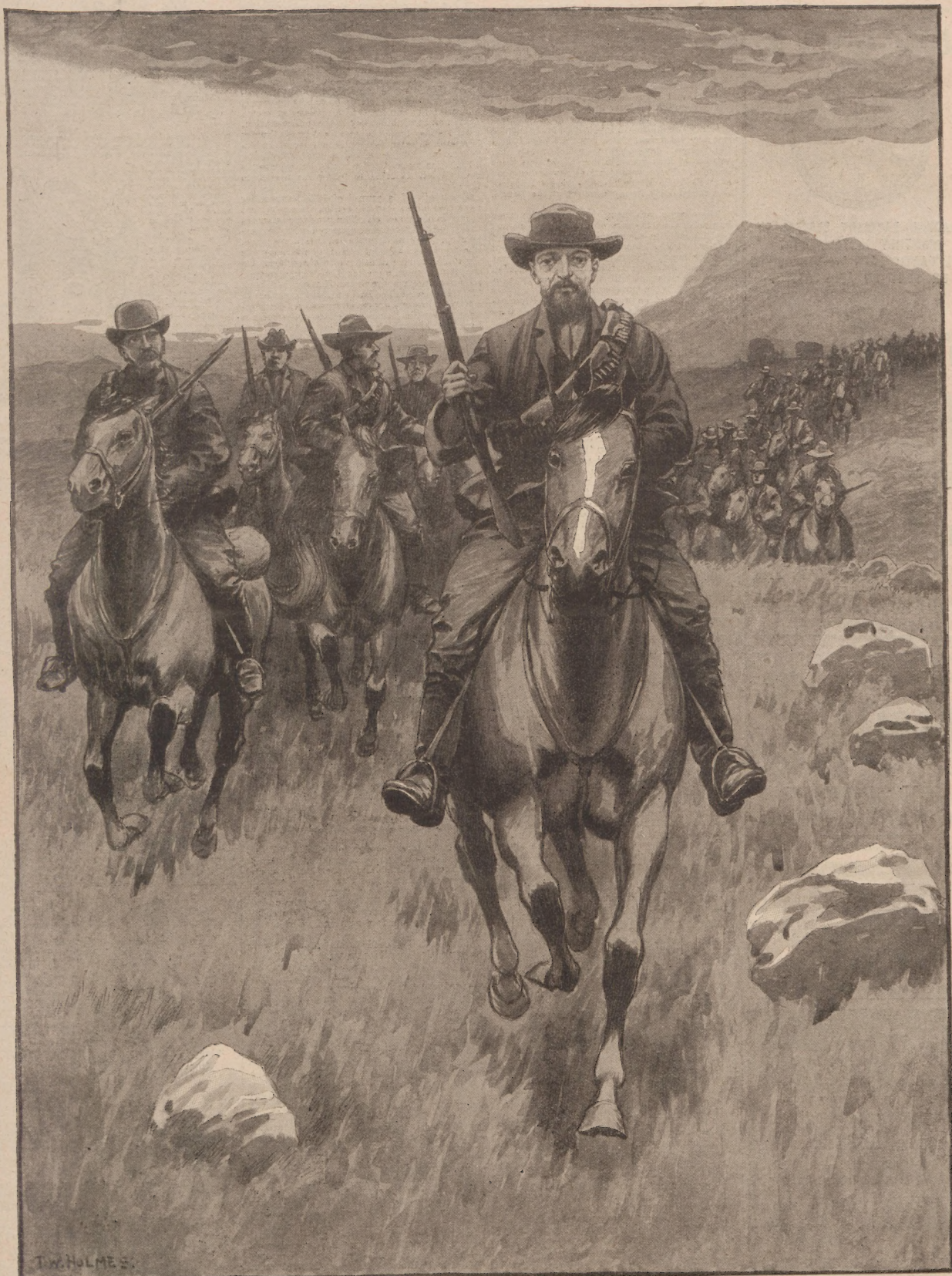
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SENT FREE.

Any article exchanged if not approved.

GREENFELT FRATER & CO., 12, EDWARDS ROAD, LONDON (near Marble Arch).**La Belle Etoile.**By **CHARLES F. HOOPER.**

[COPYRIGHT.]

EVELYN SMITH was "La Belle Etoile's" real name, and she came to Calcutta when I had been there some time. She had been left property in Sylhet, and came out to try and sell it. She was very beautiful, and naturally we all fell in love with her. Calcutta was a very different place then from what it is at the present day—there were not nearly the number of Europeans in the place that there are now. There were precious few ladies too, so "La Belle Etoile" created a good deal of stir, particularly in my own set at the Bengal Club.

There were two men, however, who were harder hit than the rest of us; one was named Cecilton and the other Preston. Cecilton was a fair-haired Englishman, very good-looking, but a trifle mean. Preston, on the contrary, was dark and swarthy; I think he had Armenian blood in his veins. He was a doctor by profession and in the Government Service. At that particular time he was engaged in an investigation of cattle plague. Preston and I were very friendly, and in fact lived together.

Both these men cordially disliked each other long before "La Belle Etoile" appeared on the scene, but their dislike changed to virulent hatred when they found they were rivals. Preston used to abuse Cecilton to me in private. His rival had all the advantage of good looks on his side. Preston was very far from being a good-looking man. I remember he sent me a very lovely present, in the shape of a diamond necklace, for which he paid an extravagant sum of money. As a matter of course she returned it—he ought to have known that she would; but he was furious, and seemed to consider Cecilton completely to blame. Then rumours began to be current that Cecilton and "La Belle Etoile" were engaged, which did not improve his temper. He got so bad at last that I thought an excursion might do him good, so took him for an outing to Barrackpore one Sunday. It was a lovely day in February, and we went in a green boat pulled by red-coated oarsmen. We lunched under the trees in the Park, and altogether had an enjoyable day.

But my well-meant efforts proved useless, for that night at the club Cecilton's engagement to Etoile was announced. Preston hardly made a remark—he was very reticent in public. We played pool after a while, and Cecilton was slightly out at the finish. We only played five rupees—a ridiculously small sum, but this seemed to upset him terribly. His servant came in a little later, and because he had committed some trifling fault, Cecilton thrashed and dismissed him on the spot. The man's face looked ugly, and I could not help thinking at the time what bad form it is to beat a servant. Preston remarked to me in a low voice that Cecilton was a fool to do it, as the man was a Wahabi, and would be sure to get even with him sooner or later. The Wahabis are a very revengeful set of Mohammedans, and it was a conspiracy of this very race that afterwards resulted in the murders of Chief Justice Norman and Lord Mayo.

The next day I was astonished to see Cecilton's discharged servant attending on Preston. He explained the circumstance by saying that he was going away shortly, and that the man, Abdul, knew the country he was to travel through.

Etoile's wedding was to take place on the 1st of March. She and Cecilton were going to Paris and on the Continent generally for their honeymoon. I felt it would be an infinite relief to my mind when the affair was over, as I feared that Preston's feelings might at any moment show themselves in some terrible form, and that he would in that case do Cecilton bodily injury. Two days before the wedding, however, he went away suddenly, having been summoned to Bikanir to investigate a disease that had broken out among the transport camels. He left Abdul to collect his traps and follow, his summons being too urgent to admit of any delay.

The wedding took place in due course at St. John's. On the completion of the service, which did not take very long, we drove off to Harrington Street, where the presents were displayed. Etoile was beaming with happiness, and Cecilton—well, he was a good-looking man any way, and he seemed handsomer than ever. The usual mistakes were made. Most of us in turn called the bride by the name we had been accustomed to. Toasts were drunk, and the bride was just on the point of disappearing to do her travelling-costume, when a chuprassie handed a note to Cecilton, which turned out to be an urgent summons from his office—the head babu wishing to see him at once on an important matter—and so, with a hasty apology, promising to return in a few minutes, he stepped into the palkee that was awaiting him and was borne away by the bearers.

He seemed to take a long time returning—so long that Etoile, having completed her toilet, had been some minutes among us and we began to notice his prolonged absence, and after some considerable time had elapsed and still he did not appear, we began to think his conduct exceedingly strange. At last the suspense became unendurable; so I drove to his office to bring him back, but to my great surprise I found he had never been there—and, moreover, he had not been summoned by the head babu; the latter knew nothing whatever of the letter that had been put into Cecilton's hand, assuming to be an

urgent request from his office. Considerably mystified and feeling very anxious, I returned to Harrington Street, only to find the bridegroom still absent. Then, no signs of him being forthcoming, the police were at last consulted, but still no trace of the missing man could be discovered. He had vanished as completely as the Gainsborough picture.

For two long days we were constantly on the alert. I myself accompanied the police through all the dirtiest slums and crimping-shops of the riverside, but nothing could be discovered. Every ship lying in the stream was ransacked, and every train that left Calcutta was inspected, without success. The police suspected Abdul and took him away to the police-station. I believe they hung the poor devil by his thumbs to a punkah, after the gentle manner of Indian policemen, but he proved a most convincing alibi. The next day he made his salaams to me, and left Calcutta to follow his master to Bikanir.

Etoile offered a reward of 10,000 rupees for news that might lead to Cecilton's recovery, but even this had no effect. The poor woman was in the deepest distress, and appeared quite broken-hearted. Her anxiety spoiled her appearance. She wept unceasingly, and I don't fancy she slept at all during those dreadful three days. On the fourth morning after the disappearance I exclusively Mr. Mumtaz, our first launch, did not prove very speedy, so we stopped about five miles on the Calcutta side of our destination, and while Etoile's butler got lunch ready we went for a stroll along the shore, intending to visit some interesting ruins we could see not far away.

Instead of going up the river, as we had at first intended, we went in the direction of Uluberia, a place that lies some twenty miles below Calcutta, and has a population almost exclusively Mohammedan. Our first launch did not prove very speedy, so we stopped about five miles on the Calcutta side of our destination, and while Etoile's butler got lunch ready we went for a stroll along the shore, intending to visit some interesting ruins we could see not far away.

Floating about in mid-stream, two hundred yards from us, was a mass of driftwood. Sometimes it would fly along borne by the current twenty yards or more, then it would swirl round and round; now it would advance slowly against the current as if checked by some eddy, then it would once more continue its journey on towards the sea. Etoile seemed fascinated; she could not take her eyes off the floating pieces of timber. I saw her face getting paler and paler, and at last she turned to me and said: "My husband is there!"

I thought her mad. It seemed as if her sorrow of the past three days had turned her brain; for she could not say such a thing. But as she spoke, the drift appeared to alter its course, and floating slowly enough with a cross eddy advanced until it struck the shore almost at our feet. And there was Cecilton, tied hands and feet to that raft—Cecilton indeed; but where were the good looks we all admired so much? His skin, baked black with the sun and exposure, had peeled off in strips, his swollen tongue lolled out of his mouth, while if ever madness existed, surely it was there in those staring eyeballs.

We loosened his bonds tenderly, but he had hardly the strength to move, and when he did, it was simply to throw himself down and suck up the muddy water, seemingly by the gallon, then the staggered, gazed at Etoile, alas! with no recognition in his eyes, and fell senseless at her feet.

But little more remains to be told. All that care and nursing could do, all the tenderness that affection could lavish, were unavailing, and two days after we found him, Cecilton was laid away in Park Street Cemetery. We found on examining him that his body was criss-crossed with inflamed cuts, and a bag of green chilies formed what at first we supposed to be a rude hat.

What had happened to the poor fellow in those terrible three days we were never able to find out. How he had been spirited away remained always a mystery. All the doctors who attended him agreed in saying that he could not have lived exposed on the raft for three days; it looked rather as if he had been set adrift some time on the previous day. I myself am positively certain that no one could live under such circumstances longer than twenty-four hours. The theory I formed in my own mind, and which was largely shared by men of my acquaintance, was that either Abdul or some of his Wahabi associates perpetrated the outrage; but whether this was so or not, certain it is we never arrived at a solution of the mystery.

Often, in thinking the matter over since those days, have I wondered if Preston nurtured a spirit of revenge in the man's breast. I wrote him a long letter, detailing all the circumstances of the case, but it never reached him, and was returned to me through the Post Office. I subsequently learned that he had quitted the Government Service abruptly, and when last seen was on his way to Tibet, having apparently fitted out a private exploring expedition. Since then I have never seen or heard of him.

Shortly after Cecilton's death, Etoile gave up her house and left Calcutta. A few years ago I heard she was living in Nice. She has remained faithful to Cecilton and has never married again.

THE END.

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SELL?—OLD GOLD AND SILVER, JEWELLERY, &c., in any form, purchased to any extent for cash by R. D. and J. B. FRATER, Ltd., Refiners, Ipswich. Established 1883. (Reference: Messrs. Bacon and Co., Bankers, Ipswich.) Send anything you wish to dispose of for valuation, or write us.—(ADVT.)

Dosalind's Fashions.

HE millinery horizon, taken as a whole, is little calculated to make one "enthusiast." That there are here and there some charming models is, no doubt, a fact; but as masses the present mode is neither artistic, pretty, nor refined. Birds, peacocks or whale, are being used as librams, till some of the toques and hats suggest the millinery however, and we must hope in the near future this wild, ill-bred exuberance will be succeeded by moderation, and a more refined taste in headgear. In the meantime one must make capital of the few pretty or picturesque models which form the occasional oasis in the desert.

A Toque Hat of cream-white satin, with a turban of sable, is shown in Fig. 1. The crown is draped entirely over with soft cream lace, which forms a species of nest for the white bird which spreads its wings across the toque. The lace is bunched up somewhat at the back, and the brim also turns up slightly, the space beneath being filled by the bird velvet, which is so much in evidence just now. It is in this case the colour of the sable, but the bow of the moment, which is finding a place on hair, headgear, gowns, and mantles, is usually black, and may be of velvet, silk, or satin.

Evening Dress is occupying much attention just now, and it is difficult, out of the number before me, to select one in particular; but that shown in Fig. 2 was a model likely to commend itself to many on account of its simplicity and modishness, and of its being possible of attainment by the home dressmaker. The high "funnel" collar, yoke in deep vandykes, and upper sleeves were of pale amber silk with a design embroidered in coloured silks of mauve and purple passages. From the yoke is drawn to the waist a full bodice of pale amber mousseline (over a tight-fitting slip of the silk) and there tied by an amber silk ribbon. The under-sleeve is also of mousseline, drawn into a wristband in the mode of the moment. This bodice would look well on a black satin, tulle, or tulle skirt, or a black net or lace over silk. The days are past when, so long as one had something drowsy as to the upper woman, any skirt was deemed sufficient for the theatre, but nothing so sketchy is now admitted. It must be a good toilette throughout, look, stock, and barrel—or bodice, skirt, and wrap.

The Skirt for Evening Wear is a very simple article, and, like most things of beauty, is very expensive, though much time and thought have been expended on it at home at a quarter the price. It is a skirt of black net or satin, embroidered over a tulle skirt with a triple row of black lace. An example is sketched in Fig. 3, which also shows the big chrysanthemum as it is now worn on berthe and hair for evening.



A THEATRE-BODICE.

select one in particular; but that shown in Fig. 2 was a model likely to commend itself to many on account of its simplicity and modishness, and of its being possible of attainment by the home dressmaker. The high "funnel" collar, yoke in deep vandykes, and upper sleeves were of pale amber silk with a design embroidered in coloured silks of mauve and purple passages. From the yoke is drawn to the waist a full bodice of pale amber mousseline (over a tight-fitting slip of the silk) and there tied by an amber silk ribbon. The under-sleeve is also of mousseline, drawn into a wristband in the mode of the moment. This bodice would look well on a black satin, tulle, or tulle skirt, or a black net or lace over silk. The days are past when, so long as one had something drowsy as to the upper woman, any skirt was deemed sufficient for the theatre, but nothing so sketchy is now admitted. It must be a good toilette throughout, look, stock, and barrel—or bodice, skirt, and wrap.



HANDSOME EVENING GOWN.

steel, moonlight, or iridescent, the hem being weighted by a triple row of black lace. An example is sketched in Fig. 3, which also shows the big chrysanthemum as it is now worn on berthe and hair for evening.

"No Better Food."Dr. ANDREW WILSON,
F.R.S.E., &c.

Fry's PURE
CONCENTRATED
"Strongest
and Best." **Cocoa**
—Health.

300 Gold Medals, &c.

CAUTION.—Refuse Substitutes which are frequently pushed to secure additional profit. Fry's Pure Concentrated Cocoa is sold only in tins with Gift Tops.

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DESICCATED

SOUP**Good, hot, rich Soup,**

with the full flavour of prime meat and choice vegetables, can be had at short notice when Edwards' Desiccated Soup is used. A few pennies' worth is sufficient to make a good nourishing soup for a family. Used with the scraps from the dinner table it makes a rich, savoury stew or hash—a good, substantial hot dinner for a wintry day.

Suppose you try a penny packet!

OF ALL GROCERS, CORNHANDLERS, &c.

"My Dear, BUY IT!"**IF YOU WANT**

to spend an enjoyable Christmas-tide, send at once for "The Holly" Parcel of Christmas and New Year Cards, games, and novelties, containing:

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The entire set, forming one of the most unique and useful parcels ever offered, will be sent post free for **2s.** from

Wm. BAILEY, Art Publisher,
72, Aldersgate Street, LONDON, E.C.

£50 IN PRIZES.**FOREST TREE PUZZLE—A GENUINE OFFER.**

£50 in cash will be given as New Year gifts to purchasers of the above parcel who rearrange these groups of letters into the names of well-known Forest Trees.

Altogether there are six groups, representing six trees, and if you arrange them all correctly you will receive £50, and if more than one competitor sends six correct answers the money will be equally divided. Write out your solutions, putting the number to each, and post them together with a P.O. for 2s. for "The Holly" Parcel, enclosing a stamped address reply envelope for Prize Result, &c. to Wm. Bailey, 72, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C.

The Competition closes on Saturday, December 29, so send in your solutions without delay. The prizes will be awarded and result posted to reach each competitor by first post on New Year's Day.

- | |
|------------|
| 1. LME. |
| 2. APELM. |
| 3. RCBIH. |
| 4. DRACE. |
| 5. NIEP. |
| 6. WLLWIO. |

The Parcel will be sent by return post, together with a letter saying how many of your solutions are correct.

Every Competitor with six solutions correct is sure to get a Prize.

Was Subject to Taking Cold.

His doctor advised Scott's Emulsion
and he derived great benefit.



E. S. ALLEN.
(From a Photograph.)

46, Ondine Road, East Dulwich, S.E.,

May 28th, 1900.

Gentlemen.—Having received so much benefit from the taking of Scott's Emulsion of Cod-Liver Oil, I feel I must write and let you know it. It is some time now since I first started taking it. Being subject to colds of all kinds, principally on my chest, I was advised by my doctor to take Scott's Emulsion. I did so and have been quite free from any ailment whatever. The cough I had kept me awake at night for hours, and I would get up in the morning quite unrefreshed and worn out, but Scott's Emulsion has quite cured me, and I now sleep well. My stomach is weak through indigestion, but I do not find Scott's Emulsion at all difficult to take; in fact, it helps digestion, and my appetite is much better. I am glad to be able to write and tell you this, and hope others, who reading this try Scott's Emulsion, will receive the same benefit as has yours very sincerely.

(Signed) E. S. ALLEN.

The point we would emphasise in the foregoing letter is the fact that notwithstanding the gentleman had a weak stomach, he took Scott's Emulsion readily, and found that it aided digestion and improved his appetite. Such cases as this prove conclusively what a triumph Scott's Emulsion is over other forms of cod-liver oil. What really prompted the experiments twenty-five years ago which resulted in Scott's Emulsion was the natural repugnance which many people have to plain cod-liver oil, together with the fact, discovered by a German scientist, that before cod-liver oil can be absorbed into the blood it must be emulsified by the digestive process. The problem was to make cod-liver oil perfectly palatable, and to offer it in as natural a form as milk or cream, both of which are emulsions.

If you desire a better test of the ease with which Scott's Emulsion is digested, and in fact of the benefit that it affords to the entire digestive system, give it to a little baby that is teething, or to the growing child whose digestive system is weak, and who is unable to derive the nourishing properties of food. You will here find that Scott's Emulsion benefits the entire

digestive system, soothes the nerves, promotes the making of healthy flesh, and makes growth vigorous and natural. No better remedy for children has ever been originated, and for adults who are subject to chronic ailments and are never well, Scott's Emulsion is the best remedy that can be taken.

In the face of such unmistakable evidence as we offer to prove the effectiveness of Scott's Emulsion, we do not see the utility of experimenting with cheap and inferior nostrums. In no other form will cod-liver oil produce such beneficial results as Scott's Emulsion, and it certainly pays to purchase only the genuine preparation, which may be distinguished by our trade mark on the wrapper encasing every bottle.

You can obtain a sample of Scott's Emulsion by sending threepence to cover postage to Scott and Bowne, Limited, 95, Great Saffron Hill, London, E.C., and mentioning the name of this paper. All chemists sell Scott's Emulsion.



THE WORLD OF WOMEN.

THE QUESTION OF CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS has, I see, been taken in hand by that most benevolent of noblemen, Lord Avebury (better known as the Sir John Lubbock who bestowed upon the public the blessings of Bank Holidays). This eminent banker deserves the heartiest gratitude of all who toil, often, alas! for scandalously low wages, in shops and other places of business. No Englishman has striven more steadfastly than Lord Avebury to brighten and cheer the lives of the heavily laden girls and women who, to the shame of certain big firms I say it, spend the best hours of their lives, for a pitifully small reward, carrying on large and profitable concerns, and who are thus deprived by their callous taskmasters of nearly all "the joy of life," which a beneficent Providence intended all should partake of equally. A welcome Yuletide respite from these mean and cruel slave-drivers is advocated by Lord Avebury, as President of the Early Closing Association.

All Honour to the Firms

which have arranged to give liberal Christmas holidays (with Christmas-boxes into the bargain, I trust). The following summary, supplied by the Early Closing Association to the directors of Messrs. Whiteley (Limited), may be of general interest—

"The wholesale City houses, and Mr. Walter Cobb, Sydenham, Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, Messrs. D. H. Evans and Co. (Limited), Mr. F. Goringe, Messrs. Harvey Nichols and Co. (Limited), Messrs. Lewis and Allenby, Messrs. John Lewis and Co., Messrs. Maple and Co. (Limited), Messrs. Marshall and Snelgrove, Messrs. Oelzmann and Co., Messrs. Shoolbred and Co., and Mr. J. Stewart, Kilburn, have already informed us that they will close from

Saturday Afternoon till Thursday Morning.

Other West-End houses have still our letters under consideration.

"A number of other well-known Saturday half-holiday houses, such as the Bon Marché (Limited), Brixton, Messrs. Jones and Higgins (Limited), Peckham, Messrs. Lewis and Co., Holborn, and Messrs. Pratt Brothers, Streatham, and numerous firms in Balham, Battersea, Brixton, Camden and Kentish Towns, Chelsea, Clapham, Clapham Junction, Ealing, East London, Fulham, Hackney, Hoxton, Kilburn, Kingsland, Peckham, Piccadilly, Shepherd's Bush, Shoreditch, Stoke Newington, Stratford, Streatham, Wandsworth, and Wimbledon will close from Christmas Eve till Friday morning. The latter bids fair to be a popular arrangement with the trade generally, and, seeing that already the mid-week half-holiday is adopted in 920 towns of the kingdom, the closing on Thursday, in

addition to Wednesday, is likely to have the force of an additional Bank Holiday. At all events, in the host and shoe trades, both in London and the country, it has received an important accession by the decision of Messrs.



NOBLE'S SAC COAT, MODEL S274 C.

Freeman, Hardy, and Willis, who have just wired consent to close the whole of their 310 branches."

The Guildhall School of Music.

under the genial and skilful guidance of Principal William H. Cummings, Mus. Doc. Dublin, is an institution the Corporation of the City of London may well feel proud to have given birth to. It is really the largest school of music in the world, and is doing untold good in promoting harmony in thousands of households throughout this great City. Richly endowed by the wealthiest and most public-spirited of Corporations (the prominent members of which are kind-hearted gentlemen animated with a desire to increase the sum total of happiness in the Metropolis), the Guildhall School of Music has a brilliant staff of teachers, and a number of clever young vocalists and instrumentalists who would be a credit to any college. Proof of this was forthcoming at the interesting

Vocal Recital

given at the school on Nov. 29 by the pupils of Madame Helen Armstrong. It was a delightful entertainment. I regret I have not space to mention more than a few of the performers. But hearty praise should be given to Miss Dora Robins for her exquisite violin solos; to the sweet girl soprano, Miss Elsie Kingsley; to Miss Alice Oliver, whose rich and contralto voice was heard to advantage in the "Three Fishers," with which the name of Madame Armstrong's recital is so intimately associated; and also to Miss Florence Worsdale, whose fresh, clear soprano notes imparted considerable charm to F. Berger's dulcet and melodious new song, "Thyself Only." Madame Armstrong is likewise entitled to much credit for developing the talent of these and other pupils, who gave so much pleasure at this excellent concert.

Winter Festivities in the Country

and the pleasant parties that town knows out of the season demand new evening dress, and my illustration is therefore appropos. The black pleated chiffon gown is an effective and elegant creation, relieved as it is by embroideries on tunic and bodice in gold, silver, and turquoises. Gold is used to brighten up most evening as well as day gowns, and gold tissues of the most supple and diaphanous order are ready to combine with net, muslin, tulle, or silk, into confections for the smarter occasions.

John Noble's Costumes.

I wish the many readers who write to me for the addresses of good and cheap costume-makers would apply direct for the winter season price-lists to the deservedly renowned firm of John Noble, Limited, Brook Street Mills, Manchester. It is a fact that the enormous productive capacity of Brook Street Mills puts it within the power of John Noble, Limited, to supply the public direct, by Parcels Post, at prices which represent a big saving over ordinary shop purchases. Take, for example, Model S 274 C, a fashionable double-breasted sac coat, which will be found illustrated in Noble's sheet of "Tailor-Made Festivals." This is a well-cut and thoroughly stylish garment made in good wearing, serviceable cloth, and prettily finished with velvet and neat buttons. The price for this coat is only 8s. 6d., and the carriage is 6d. The clientele torques, as sketched, is but 7s. 11d., carriage 6d. extra.

The splendid money value of John Noble's admirable costumes and dress fabrics is appreciated by ladies everywhere, and I feel sure our subscribers will be interested to learn that equally good bargains are to be obtained of John Noble, Limited, in handkerchiefs and lace suitable for Christmas and New Year gifts, millinery, underwear, mourning requisites, mantles, blouses, and children's costumes.

It is but just to acknowledge ladies will be charmed with these dainty leaflets, which will be

sent to any address post free on application to John Noble, Limited, Brook Street Mills, Manchester.

Buttons, Buckles, and Bows

are the ornaments of the hour. The buttons are very tiny; they are known as *ferrets*, pronounced not as we pronounce ferret, the well-known little animal, but as if it were written "fer-ray." It is French for a tag, such as we use on stay, boot, or shoe laces. It is almost impossible to have too many of these

Tiny Buttons on Your Dresses,

yet everything depends upon how they are placed thereon, and if they are large they lose their effect. The black bows which are so much used on morning and evening bodices are large. They are also worn in the hair. The little feathers have gone out; flowers are not very popular, but the

Black Bow in Velvet or Satin

has come to stay for a time; but nothing remains long in fashion. Our tyrant is nothing if she is not fickle. The coat which is now the extreme of the fashion is of such a length that ladies are beginning to wear with their coats long and

Pretty Silk Petticoats,

or they provide themselves with a petticoat which can be worn with their coats that is of a colour which does not match, but harmonises. For instance, a pretty brown—sail-brown, not a red brown—can be worn with a light fawn or putty-coloured coat. These petticoats, which do not touch the ground, and are not trained, look better with the very long coats than trained skirts. Indeed, the latter cannot be worn with any comfort except in a carriage. I saw a lady a few afternoons ago at a party, and she wore a coat and skirt of putty-coloured cloth. The skirt was one of those which are very full round the edge, and do not look half as well in reality as they do in the sketches in newspaper. There they are, by the artists, made to fall in pretty folds round the feet, and we poor deluded mortals!—are under the impression that they look precisely the same when we put them on; but, alas! they never look in the very least like the pictured models. Well, then, over the long skirt was worn a coat which covered the whole of the skirt except the train! To hold up the latter was impossible, so I can but hope that the wearer, who was

A Tall, Graceful Woman,

was not obliged to "personally conduct" that wonderful costume along the muddy streets.



AN EVENING GOWN OF BLACK CHIFFON.

The plan of wearing the smart petticoat under the long coat is a very good one. The Christmas numbers, the Autumn Fashion numbers, and the Christmas Presents numbers are out. The Christmas Presents Number of the *Lady's Pictorial* can be bought now, and a wonderful production it is. I think the little gifts for Christmas are prettier and cheaper than they have been for years.

I took a look round at Marshall and Snelgrove's, in Oxford Street, a few days ago; they have a charming assortment of neck-necks of all kinds. Muff-chains, bags, photograph-frames, and all manner of fascinating articles, and the show of silks and laces was positively dazzling. Such Brussels laces and laces of all kinds! I have never seen anything more beautiful. Very costly, of course. And then the blouses for afternoon, dinner, and theatre wear! I priced one, in white silk and black velvet, and it was six guineas! I do not know whether to pity or envy women who can afford to give six guineas for a blouse; and I hope the woman who made it got a fair share of the price.

Anecdotes of Sir Arthur Sullivan.

Enjoying anew the sweet melodies of "Patience," one cannot but deplore the comparatively early death of the great composer.

Mr. Howard Paul says as follows in the following note about the late lamented Sir Arthur Sullivan: "I had the pleasure of meeting the distinguished composer at dinner on several occasions. He was a gentleman to the tips of his fingers, well-bred, amiable, sympathetic, an admirable talker, and an excellent listener. He was one of the directors of the Savoy Hotel, where he entertained many of his friends in the apartments of the hotel that bear the names of his operas—'The Mikado,' 'Patience,' 'Pinafore,' etc. And often his guests were the foremost men in Great Britain, for he was *persona grata* in the highest society."

"The last time I dined with Sir Arthur he was talking of James McNeill Whistler, who had promised to attend a noted *à-thete's* wedding. When the bridal party reached the church, Whistler was nowhere to be seen, but a telegram was handed to the groom as he was about to proceed to the altar. It read: 'Am detained. Can't get to church in time. Get married. Don't wait. Blessings all the same!'—Whistler." On one occasion I sent Sir Arthur tickets for a concert that was to take place in St. James's Hall. The next day I received a quaintly courteous note: "Dear Paul,—Thanks for tickets, but I don't like music, though you may not have suspected this aversion. I've sent them to an ancient relative of mine, who adores all kinds of music, from the feeble squeak of a hurdy-gurdy to the sonorous peals of a grand organ, so your pastedoes will not be lost.—Thine, SULLIVAN." So, you see Sir Arthur would have his little joke.

A correspondent wishes to know if there is any

Reduction in the Price of Cycles,

and if there were any machines that were good and cheap at the recent Cycle Exhibition. Not being a wheelwoman I did not visit the Exhibition, but a friend, who is an expert and a first-class rider, wrote me that one, and in her opinion good machines can be bought at lower prices than they fetched a year ago. The Hammett-Palmer seems to have caught her fancy, as it is anti-vibrating, and there is a nine-guinea cycle, which is good value for the money, but it is not of the "free-wheel" order. Among the saddles on view my friend says she liked the "Cutbert"; it is made on scientific principles, and is particularly soft and comfortable. I was told to mention

The "Rideasy" Skirt.

which the experience of a year of use has confirmed in public favour. I have seen it on my friend, and when she is mounted its set is very good indeed. The back pleat falls down, and keeps together over the back wheel, and remains in position while the pedals are in motion. This skirt is made for the inventor by Peter Robinson, of Oxford Street. I may add that the Hammett cycle still holds its own.

I am asked to give the names of some more books for children.

Suitable for Christmas.

If for the very little folks, ask to see the books brought out by Messrs. Dean and Son in their Diploma Series, Panorama Series, and Gold Medal Series. All of these are excellent examples of colour-printing, and some of them are unobtainable—a great boon for the nursery.

For girls there are no better books than those by Evelyn Everett Green and L. T. Meade: Boys love Henry and Gordon Stables; and for the youngsters who can read, try "The Mandarin's Kite," by G. E. Farrow, author of "The Wallop of Why"; and "A Child's London" is delightful, but it is for the younger inmates of the school-room, who will really appreciate it. The rights of London are supposed to be described and criticised by the children who visit them. "A Hundred Anecdotes of Animals" is another capital book.

For the elders, and all who are interested in children, I recommend a book by the author of that charming story, "The Invisible Playmate," William Caxton. The book is called "The Sayings of Children," and very quaint and amusing many of the sayings are. The little articles upon children with which the book opens are very good. Now I am going to give a French recipe for

A Cherry Pudding,

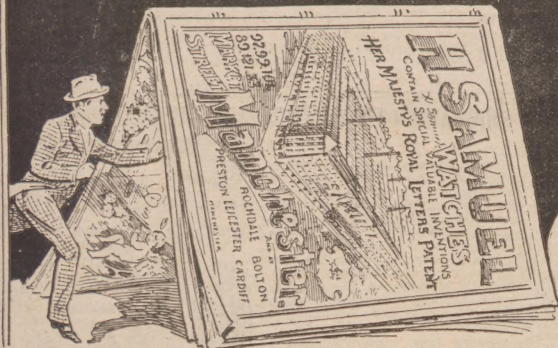
which can be made with bottled fruit; but the cherries should be the black variety. Take a pound of the fruit, wash them in cold water, and mix with them three crushed rusks and a pinch of powdered cinnamon. Boil a tumbler and a half of milk with 3 oz. of sugar; mix with it four well-beaten eggs; pour this custard over the fruit. Then put the dish in the oven for thirty minutes; and, just before taking it out, when it is done

"Nothing better for breakfast"

than really good bacon. DAVIES' BACON is a bacon that the most fastidious can enjoy for breakfast. It is always the same—always good. It is entirely free from the rancid and excessively salt taste of many other brands of bacon, and is celebrated for its uniform choiceness and mildness.

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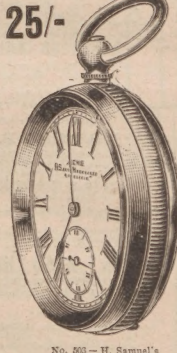
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you can make to one of your boys, or you can wear it yourself.

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can wear our famous Boots, or Watches. We guarantee these Suits and Overcoats to be of correct West End fit, cut, style, and of first-class wear; while our Boots and Shoes, which are of ENGLISH MANUFACTURE, are unbeaten in any London shop at 10/6.

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FOR ASKING
we will send you a copy of our Xmas Booklet of suitable presents for the season. Shall we send you a copy? If so, send your name and address.

A GENUINE BARGAIN LADY'S FULL-SIZE REAL MOROCCO corner, nickel silver set spring lock, containing four inside pockets, with extra centre pocket for gold, with inside nickel silver mounts and secure fastener, and extra outside pockets for stamps, bills, with extra Morocco leather flaps, every part stitched and securely sewn, making a most useful and acceptable gift for any lady, young or old. Government Hall-marked silver corners, price only 2/6, with FREE GIFT of a Nickel Puzzle Box to each customer. Any two silver initials also need be ordered, extra 1/6. Total, four 7s.

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MESSRS. PAIR BROTHERS, XMAS CARD PUBLISHERS, HASTINGS, guarantee to send, by return, post free, FREE.



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and their name and address plainly written thereon, all the following—

20 XMAS CARDS AND PRESENTS.

PAIR BROTHERS' noted Annual Xmas Parcel is looked for each year for their great value and novelty, but never before has anything been offered to equal this parcel.

This may indeed, be termed a "Family Selection," embracing, as it does, Cards suitable for both the old and young of either sex. If sold in the usual retail way, this mammoth parcel would fetch five or six times the money.

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Fancy Figures, Fun Cards, Hints, and Comic Animals. Nos. 13 to 20 form a Selection of Elegant Folding Cards of all the prettiest designs and shapes, including beautifully Embossed and Filigree Work, Favorite Flowers, Lovely Landscapes, Jewelled Cards, &c., all sure to meet with perfect approval. Although the twenty Xmas Cards, value from 1d. to 6d. each, are worth five or six times the money charged, in addition, we will send to the first 2000 applicants one of the newest, funniest, and most mirth-provoking Novelties ever launched, called the

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Great Funniest office, can be had with it, by asking your friends to have THEIR PHOTOS TAKEN BY YOU, when, to their surprise, you touch the pivot, out pops a dinky or other funny little camera, being fitted with various different semi-provoking subjects. Full printed instructions for putting together, and for complete working, are sent with each.

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Our £2 10s. REAL SILVER WATCH (with Chain) or A REAL GOLD RING Set with REAL DIAMONDS or other Stones. Send No Money. Write To-day.

Just send us a STAMPED ADDRESSed Envelope and say that you will either sell the Jewellery or return it to us if you fail to sell it. On receiving your letter we will at once post you the Jewellery.

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